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PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS BODY MEETS IN MOSCOW

Opening, Comment on Shultz Trip

LD242315 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Report by Moscow correspondent Stefan Simak]

[Text] A session of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee opened in Moscow today. Our Moscow correspondent Stefan Simak reports:

[Simak] At the center of attention of the 14th session of the committee of ministers are topical issues of European and world security in the context of the Soviet initiatives for the creation of a world free from nuclear weapons. The foreign ministers underscored the importance of the Soviet proposal at Reykjavik that represents a qualitatively new approach to the issues of disarmament. At the same time they stressed the inevitability of the immediate signing of a Soviet-U.S. treaty on the complete elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe.

Boris Pyadishev, a deputy head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information Center, pointed to the close connection between the internal and foreign policy of socialist countries.

As Soviet Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said in his morning speech, and as the representatives of other countries noted, a further strengthening of the international position of the socialist community is presently taking place. The foreign ministers noted that some Western politicians proposed to seek new, untried ways in their replies. Others assume the typical old stances, leading nowhere. They continue to spread lies about the threat of war from the East and try to act from a position of force. The West overall shows an inability to agree to sensible solutions and to make compromises.

The key differences between the present and the past lies not only in the fact that the socialist countries have submitted initiatives and proposals that concern all basic issues of security. Similar proposals have been submitted before. What is essential today is the fact that these initiatives meet with a reaction. The idea of creating a general system of peace and security is supported by the United Nations. The concept of a world without nuclear weapons has become, after Reykjavik, the philosophical and practical basis of the talks on nuclear and space weapons. The dialogue between the EEC and CEMA is continuing, and the situation is similar in other spheres.

The foreign ministers welcomed the new quality of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva but they pointed out that the U.S. side has tried to submit new questions and has tried to artificially prolong the solution of this problem. The forthcoming talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Moscow will make it possible to create realistic ideas on the real intentions of the White House and the prospects of the Geneva talks.

The foreign ministers stressed during today's exchange of views that the Warsaw Pact consistently increases its role as an important factor in the strengthening of peace and security in Europe and in the world.

The session will continue tomorrow.

Orzechowski Review

LD241920 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1820 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Witold Stefanowicz report from Moscow]

[Text] Literally a few minutes ago, the 14th meeting of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers' Committee finished. Just a moment ago, Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski rose from the conference table. Minister, which of the matters taken up by Polish diplomacy and personally, by its head, were regarded as the most important today during the proceedings?

[Orzechowski] There is one matter which is of major importance for us and for all Europe: that of disarmament. In this light, or in this context, we analyzed the situation in Europe, particularly on the basis of the Soviet proposals concerning medium-range missiles, and on the basis of our initiative in Vienna. I took part in the ministers' discussion at the conference. Our initiative concerning a mandate for the Stockholm Conference, or another which will examine matters of conventional disarmament, took up a great deal of time, as did other initiatives of our Warsaw Pact allies aimed at aiding the disarmament process, detente, and cooperation throughout Europe.

[Stefanowics] Thank you very much and I hope, Comrade Minister, that tomorrow, after the proceedings have ended, you will also wish to devote a few minutes to the listeners of Polish radio.

[Orzechowski] If the opportunity arises, of course. These are, after all, matters concerning the entire society, and our whole nation.

Further Report

LD250952 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0800 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] The USSR -- The 14th session of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee continues in Moscow today. Stefan Simak, our permanent correspondent has sent a telephone report:

The committee is in session at a time when attitudes of governments, political parties, and the international public toward the Soviet proposal to create a world free of nuclear arms are being formed. Regarding this, the foreign ministers of the socialist countries stressed the need to sign a treaty that completely liquidates Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe immediately. They expressed their satisfaction with the new quality of proceedings at the Geneva talks on this problem but also referred to attempts by the U.S. delegation to raise new questions and thus prolong the proceedings. The truth about the White House's real intentions will emerge during the forthcoming talks between the U.S. Secretary of State George Schultz and Soviet representatives in Moscow.

The socialist foreign ministers have rejected fabrications that the internal changes, which are taking place in the USSR and other states of the community, are taking place to adapt to international opinion. Socialism is developing and perfecting on its own basis, is strengthening its position, and in the spirit of the new thinking is influencing the development of international relations increasingly actively.

The 14th session of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee will end in Moscow today with adoption of final documents.

ALIA SPEAKS AT TIRANA PARTY MANAGEMENT AKTIV

AU241449 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 21 Mar 87 p 1

[ATA report on speech given by Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary, at the party akitv in Tirana on March 20: "Party Aktiv With Cadres of the Administration and Central Institutions"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Amid the applause of those present Comrade Ramiz Alia took the floor. He made an important speech, in which he said among other things:

The discussions of comrades at this aktiv of cadres in the administration and the central institutions have shown that work everywhere is being intensified to accomplish and implement the directives of the ninth party congress. It is pleasing to note that the popular debate to concretize and execute the tasks set forth by this congress is becoming more intense, both centrally and in workplaces. This shows society's concern to advance at a faster rate.

On the occasion of this meeting I would like, in the name of the AWP Central Committee, to greet the communists and all the working people of the central state, social, and economic organs. I express confidence that you will honorably attain the great objectives set forth by the ninth congress and the new tasks you have undertaken.

The ninth party congress gave us a clear program, with important duties in every area of life. The line set down by the party at this congress and its decisions have found unanimous support and approval from the entire people. The masses are inspired, and are showing their enthusiastic preparedness in labor everywhere.

Speaking about the Eighth 5-Year Plan, Comrade Ramiz Alia said that the major tasks of the 5-year period demand more professional work from every level of management. The party and Comrade Enver taught us to be dialectical, and to see everything in motion and under development. Our methods and styles of work must meet the demands of the age, the great tasks presented by the ninth congress, the high ideopolitical and cultural level of the masses, and the socioeconomic objectives which we wish to achieve. Revolutionary activity is required in every field; concrete, effective, technical, organizational, and scientific measures are also required, with the harmonization of material factors and conditions. The new tasks demand of everybody, and especially of the central management organs, more dynamism, more persistency in labor, more initiative, more discipline and control, and more vigor in accomplishment.

Working methods, he stressed, are tied with the people's view of the world and must meet the demands of our communist ideology. To defend and strengthen the power of the people, to increase the material and cultural wealth of the homeland, to work with dedication, to sacrifice oneself for the cause of the party and people, all depend on the ideopolitical level and communist convictions of working people in the various apparatuses.

Later Comrade Ramiz Alia dwelt on the part played by the administration as a principal instrument in the hands of the party for the management of the economy. It is on their work the creative implementation of the demands of the principle of democratic centralism greatly depends.

It is a virtue of our party, he said, to have always considered centralism and democracy in unity, to have always combated both excessive centralism, which hinders the revolutionary initiative of the masses and paves the way for signs of bureaucratism, and liberlism, which leads to anarchy and the disintegration of authority. [paragraph continues]

The party and Comrade Enver have stressed that we are in favor of centralism, but democratic, not bureaucratic, centralism, and that we are in favor of initiative and self-motivation, but not disarray and liberalism.

Speaking about the relationship betwen centralized management and the line of the masses, on the question of regulating the authorities and rights and responsibilities of the various state and economic organs, and on the interdependency and relationship of center and workplace, Comrade Ramiz Alia underlined that our theory and practice have taught us to distinguish what is primary and must be preserved and developed, from what is secondary, to know which concerns the path of development of productive forces, the structures and organization of labor and productivity, and which undergoes change and constant refinement. He drew attention to the fact that the party demands from the central organs not mechanical but creative labor, not officials who pass on instructions, but cadres and working people with fertile minds, who manage and organize with imagination and communist responsibility.

After demonstrating the opportunities which have been opened up for more productive and professional management, he said that the decisive precondition for increasing the managing role of the central organs is a knowlede of the party line in its entirety, especially instructions for each relevant sector. This is no modest task that can be done all at once. Knowledge, understanding, analysis, and the implementation of instruction demands study, constant information, the processing of public opinion, along with appropriate material, technical, and organizational conditions.

A productive working method, Comrade Ramiz said, is one that helps people to transform themselves, brings positive changes, raises and solves problems, and is guided by our Marxist-Leninist world view and the objective laws of development. It demands the strengthening of direct links with the workplace, of control at every level, and particularly close ties between cadres and the masses, so that they become models of proletarian modesty.

The encouragement and support of initiative at the base, he stressed, continues to be a permanent demand of the party line. This demand is tied to the great Marxist-Leninist idea that socialism is the work of the masses, and to the essential role of the dictatorship of the proletariat as an expression of the broadest democracy of the working people.

We have great reserves which, with the initiative of the masses, can be more efficiently used to the benefit of socialist construction and the strengthening of the homeland. In this connection he dwelt upon problems of supplying the people with milk, eggs, and other food and industrial products.

There are many ways of spurring work forward. The central apparatuses must examine, create, and support advanced thinking. Administrative bodies must increase the demands on themselves and on their dependent enterprises, especially in improving the quality of production. Every sector, every plant and factory, must consider how to be creative, how to improve quality, how to improve production, and how to satisfy the people.

He stressed that the tightening of party discipline, of state control, and the control of the masses, the activation and elevation to a new level of worker control, higher demands at work and the tightening of financial accounting today constitute the principal tasks facing the revolutionizing of working methods.

Progress in the economy and culture, Comrade Ramiz Alia said, is closely tied to the development of science, the introduction of modern techniques and technology into production, and the application of the achievements of the age.

Science, he said, must assume the place to which it is entitled. It should respond capably to the major and practical demands posed by the development of productive forces and the increased efficiency in the economy. The central administrative bodies, and the Committee for Science and Technology in particular, must require results with solutions and concrete suggestions from scientific workers to drive production forward.

Comrade Ramiz Alia also spoke about the great role party organization must play in the administration.

In his conclusion he expressed the conviction and confidence of the AWP Central Committee that communists and cadres in the administration, the mass organizations, and the scientific research institutes will place all their abilities, experience, and moral strength in the service of the attainment of the goals of the Eighth 5-Year Plan, for the inexorable progress of socialism.

The speech of Comrade Ramiz Alia was listened to with great attention.

At the close of the Aktiv, Comrade Pirro Kondi thanked Comrade Ramiz Alia in the name of the party organization and the people of Tirana for the valuable advice which he had given, and assured him that the communists and working people of the administration and central institutions would use all their strength to implement the directives of the ninth party congress.

SOVIET 'REVISIONIST' ECONOMICS LEADS TO 'CRISIS'

AU231549 Tirana RRUGA E PARTISE in Albanian No. 2 for Feb 87 pp 89-100

[Article by Arben Bakllamaja: "The Crossroads of the Capitalist Soviet Economy and Its Obscure Prospects"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] A new strategy for "socioeconomic acceleration" was proclaimed with fanfares at the 27th Congress of the revisionist CPSU. It follows two major directions: economic restructuring and modernization of the economy and of the management system.

The chain of reforms in the capitalist economic mechanism has long been used by the Soviet bourgeoisie to raise the hopes of the broad masses of better days to come. Through its new orientations for more radical reforms, the Soviet bourgeoisie is striving to create an image of progress and boom. According to the Soviet bourgeoisie, the new strategy is based on the capabilities of the illusory "socialist" order, and aims to overcome ills such as inflation, apathy, parasitism, speculation, and so forth that have accumulated in the Soviet economy from one 5-year period to the next. In other words, it attempts to resolve what previous reforms failed to resolve and to find a way out of the severe crisis that grips it. [passage omitted]

What goal does the Soviet leadership intend to achieve, what are the solutions offered by the restructuring of the economic mechanism, and on what basis will these reforms be carried out?

Essentially, the Soviet leadership is seeking to mobilize the factors involved in developing capital reproduction for the increased profits of enterprises. The changes in the system of the economy follow two major directions: First, there is a move toward further decentralization of management in the state and cooperative sector, including the entire economic mechanism of capitalist production relations. [paragraph continues]

On this basis, the use of economic levers and of economic and material incentives by the enterprises are to be considerably extended through changes in the mechanism of the creation and distribution of incomes, as well as in the price, finance, credit, export, and import mechanisms. Second, the intention is to move toward a greater extension of private economic activity and initiative, and to better coordinate this activity with the needs of state monopoly capitalism. Essentially, a move is being made toward "regulating" the economy through a more active utilization of those factors which place enterprises more directly under the influence of spontaneous regulating market forces. The failure of state monopoly capitalism has driven the Soviet monopoly bourgeoisie to seek an extension of the role of the market. "Market socialism" has thus been made the official line in the Soviet Union, further consolidating the concrete steps already taken in this direction. [passage omitted]

Soviet revisionist propaganda is striving to present these as measures that "strengthen" the responsibility of the base and of self-management, supposedly to decisively increase the role of the working collectives in the use of "social property." But this is merely a demagogic falsity intended to conceal the truth of the deepening of the process of having embarked on the road of modifying the principles and economic laws of socialism, and to avoid making theoretical justifications and arguments concerning these steps.

They are striving to present self-management as a fundamental characteristic of socialism, stressing the need for "a further intensification of socialist self-management in the economic field." However, regardless of the specific definition of the term, Soviet self-management bears a clear resemblance to Yugoslav self-administration. Revisionist ideologues present economic self-managment as a manifestation of all-round democracy in production and as the direct administration of the means of production by workers collectives. Lenin unmasked this as a complete removal of the workers class from its leadership role in the socialist society. Comrade Enver Hoxha foresaw long ago that the state monopoly capitalism ruling the Soviet Union would move on to the experience of Yugoslav self-management. The results of this experience can be found in the scientific Marxist-Leninist criticism of Yugoslav self-management by Comrade Enver Hoxha. The picture of the present state of the bankrupt self-managed economy in Yugoslavia constitutes the future dilemma of the Soviet capitalist economy. [passage omitted]

ECONOMIST CRITICIZES 'CAPITALIST' ECONOMIC REFORMS

AU171038 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 11 Mar 87 p 4

[Article by Leontiev Cuci, candidate of economic sciences: "The Process of Capitalist Degeneration Deepens"]

[Excerpts] Soviet revisionism is wandering into a wilderness of insoluble contradictions with all the typical ills of capitalism. The increased burden of the militarization of the economy has smothered its mechanism of operation. The extensive increase of the centralized military-industrial complex consumes enormous material and human resources, while the civilian economy continues to accumulate greater losses, creating chronic shortages in common consumer goods.

To alleviate these tensions, the Soviet revisionists are embarking on fresh steps to deepen the capitalist reform of the economy, which they present as a refinement of the economic mechanism. This policy aims, on the macroeconomic scale, to deepen the integrative process of the national economy, placing its major productive complexes on a firmer organizational footing at the sector and inter-sector level. [paragraph continues]

This is linked to the need to consolidate the major structures of management and control, with the aim of reorganizing production of these monopolistic Soviet associations by giving them the business characteristics of the powerful monopolies of the West, in order to meet competition and to ensure further Soviet expansion on the world market.

The creation of great monopolist giants is accompanied by increasingly meshing the Soviet economy into the cogs of the capitalist world economy. This process, which began with the opening of the doors to Western capital and the acceptance of Western loans and credit, is crystallized with the creation of joint enterprises with international financial capital. Recently, the legitimization of the creation of these joint enterprises by decree of the Supreme Soviet, and the right and authority given to 20 ministries and 70 large production enterprises to enter freely into export-import contracts with Western firms, show that the "radical restructuring" of the Soviet economy cannot be accomplished without the penetration of foreign capital.

Alongside these major economic integrations, the decentralization of the decision-making process and the control of economic activity at the level of production associations and enterprises is expanding. These economic units have been given the widest rights of self-determination to use their profits and set their prices. This way, the guiding targets set by the monopolist state bureaucracy are limited, giving the enterprises greater room for maneuver according to supply and demand in the market, with the aim of making profit the only regulator of their activity.

In continuation of these integration and monopolization processes at the center, and the decentralization at the base, modern Soviet reformers have also justified the encouragement and growth of the individual and collective private economy, which produces food, trades in essential services and in housing construction, and on a contracted basis supplements the major and so to speak independent enterprises. The new Supreme Soviet law on private labor, as an embodiment of the guidelines of the 27th CPSU Congress, opened new prospects to expand and legitimize privatization through every pore of Soviet life.

Obviously privatization is not an unknown phenomenon in the Soviet economy. For some time private enterprises have existed alongside monopolist state capitalism and other forms of collective capitalist property. The special characteristic of the present process lies in the creation of a healthier capitalist basis for the social-imperialist state. This way the state will shed the burden of the civilian economy, and will be able to devote itself more to the increasing demands of modern militarization. [passage omitted]

The AWP and Comrade Enver Hoxha anticipated and explained these regressive processes and the restoration of capitalism in the Soviet Union a long time ago, and life now proves these predictions true. The capitalist road down which the Khrushchevites led the country is consistently followed with the most disastrous consequences. The capitalist mechanism working in the economy, whether of the "new" or "old" form, cannot ensure harmonious growth cannot prevent economic catastrophe, nor the destruction of the productive abilities and national wealth created with the sweat and labor of the working people. [passage omitted]

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT BY CPSU'S SOLOMENTSEV

Meets Sofia Party Aktiv

AU241054 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] A meeting between Comrade Mikhail Solomentsev and the Sofia BCP aktiv took place at the Sofia Lyudmila Zhivkova People's Palace of Culture this morning.

The meeting was opened and chaired by Anastasiy Donchev, first secretary of the Sofia City BCP Committee. Comrades Stanko Todorov, Nacho Papazov, Dimitur Stanishev, and Leonid Grekov, USSR ambassador to Bulgaria, were in the honorary presidium.

Comrade Mikhail Solomentsev delivered a speech in which he dwelled on the long-time fraternal friendship and cooperation and on the traditional relations existing between the control-auditing organs of our two parties, relations which are enriching and accelerating our mutual progress. Mikhail Solomentsev also dealt with the comprehensive and fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria. He stressed that the implementation of the agreements reached between Comrades Mikhail Gorbachev and Todor Zhivkov [words indistinct] will contribute to the intensification and expansion of relations of cooperation and mutual interaction in all sectors of life.

Mikhail Solomentsev also dealt in his speech with the tremendous process of restructuring now being accomplished in the Soviet Union, with the expansion of socialist democracy, and with the lofty goals and tasks the Soviet people are now coping with. In this connection, he spoke on the work of the party control organs in implementing party decisions.

Mikhail Solomentsev answered questions asked by participants in the meeting.

Meets With Zhivkov

AU241339 Sofia BTA in English 1323 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Sofia, March 24 (BTA) -- Today Mr Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council, received Mr Mikhail Solomentsev, Politburo member and chairman of the Committee for Party Control at the CC of the CPSU, who is paying a working visit here.

In a cordial and comradely atmosphere, the two briefed each other on the tasks carried out by the two countries in fulfillment of the decisions of the 27th Congress of the CPSU and of the 13th Congress of the BCP. They focused on the wide-ranging reconstruction under way in the Soviet Union, on the BCP policy seeking a qualitatively new growth.

Mr Todor Zhivkov emphasised that the Bulgarian party and state leadership fully supports the CPSU policy, both in its domestic and international aspects.

Questions concerning bilateral cooperation were also on the agenda.

The meeting was attended by Mr Nacho Papazov, chairman of the Central Control and Auditing Commission of the BCP. [Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1000 GMT on 24 March in a brief report on the Zhivkov-Solomentsev meeting adds that Soviet Ambassador to Bulgaria Lenid Grekov was also present.]

Zhivkov Hosts Luncheon

AU241411 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1400 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] On 24 March Comrade Todor Zhivkov gave a luncheon in honor of Mikhail Solomentsev. The luncheon was attended by Comrades Grisha Filipov, Yordan Yotov, Milko Balev, Chudomir Aleksandrov, Nacho Papazov, Vasil Tsanaov, Dimitur Stanishev, Emil Khristov, and Stoyan Mikhaylov.

Leonid Grekov, USSR ambassador to Bulgaria, also attended the luncheon.

FURTHER MATERIALS ON VISIT BY PRC'S WU XUEQIAN

Mladenov Dinner Toast

AU181019 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 14 Mar 87 p 6

[Report on toast by Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov, at official dinner given in honor of Wu Xueqian, PRC minister of foreign affairs, in Sofia on 13 March]

[Text] Petur Mladenov gave an official dinner in honor of Wu Xueqian. The toasts which the two ministers delivered were a new confirmation of the common or close views of the two countries on topical problems of our epoch.

Minister Petur Mladenov expressed confidence that Wu Xueqian's visit to our country will help intensify the existing cooperation and interaction between our country and the PRC. We have deep respect for the great Chinese people, for their ancient culture, and revolutionary history, for their struggles for freedom and independence, as well as for their socialist development, he said.

In pointing out that the relations between the two countries and peoples were intensified in recent years, the Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs pointed out that the exchange of visits between parliamentary delegations, as well as business contacts at various levels, have contributed to this. We are convinced, he added, that mutual readiness exists for further expanding and intensifying the economic, trade, and scientific-technical cooperation between our two countries. Considerable and still unused opportunities exist for this expansion and intensification. We are convinced that the continuing development of Bulgarian-Chinese relations will be in the interest of the two peoples, in the interest of peace and understanding throughout the world.

Minister Petur Mladenov pointed out that the tense international situation requires governments and peoples to adopt a new way of thinking and realistic new approaches and actions. [paragraph continues]

The Soviet proposal to immediately sign a separate agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe, for example, is a specific expression of such an approach, and Bulgaria wholeheartedly supports the topical and constructive initiatives for the consolidation of peace and security in the Asian and Pacific zones.

Our country is categorically in favor of a new approach in settling international affairs. Bulgaria is co-author of the proposal to establish a comprehensive system of international security. As a Balkan country we devote special attention to policy in this area. It is of particular importance, in our opinion, to transform the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons.

The Bulgarian foreign minister stressed that Bulgaria appreciates the contribution of all governments and peoples in favor of international detente and the preservation of peace. We positively evaluate the commitment assumed by the PRC not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, as well as its stand against the militarization of outer space. We welcome the adoption of a treaty on declaring the southern part of the Pacific as a nuclear-free zone, Petur Mladenov further stated.

The existing opportunities for cooperation between Bulgaria and China in the struggle for disarmament, and for nuclear disarmament in particular, were pointed out in Petur Mladenov's toast and the struggle for an alleviation of international tension, as well as for peaceful coexistence, was stressed. The goals and tasks which our two governments and peoples have set for themselves for an accelerated economic and social development can be implemented only under conditions of lasting peace, cooperation, and understanding, Petur Mladenov stated in closing his toast.

Party Daily's Editorial Article

AU231103 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 18 Mar 87 p 6

[Editorial article: "Constructive and Promising Dialogue"]

[Text] The official visit to our country by Wu Xueqian, PRC minister of foreign affairs and CPC Central Committee Politburo member, at the invitation of Petur Mladenov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, represents an important event in the ascending development of Bulgarian-Chinese relations.

During the visit Comrade Todor Zhivkov and Comrade Georgi Atanasov received Wu Xueqian. During these two meetings, and also during the talks between the two ministers of foreign affairs, the basic questions of bilateral cooperation were discussed in detail and trends were mapped out for the further expansion and perfection of these relations. The importance of the forthcoming exchange of visits on the highest-level between the two socialist states was pointed out during the talks.

A plan on scientific and cultural cooperation for the 1987-88 period was signed between the Governments of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the PRC. An agreement on cultural cooperation and a consular convention were initialed. They map out important trends in bilateral cooperation in the sectors of education and health protection, between mass media, in the archives and film arts sectors, in book publishing, and in tourism. [paragraph continues]

The numerous initiatives and events envisaged in the plan and agreement will expand and enrich the relations between creative artists and public figures in the spheres of our social and intellectual life; they will contribute to an even better mutual acquaintance between the two peoples.

The exchange of opinions on a wide range of international problems represented an important part of the talks held by the Chinese guest in our country. Particular attention was devoted to the questions of preserving and consolidating peace. The two sides expressed their common understanding that there can be no victors in a future nuclear war, that the danger of such a war continues to be real but that it is not fatally inevitable. Therefore it is of particular importance today, in the current tense and complicated international atmosphere, for all peoples to combine their efforts to ensure the peaceful future of our planet.

Bulgaria and China insist on the adoption of immediate actions for halting the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race, and for disarmament, for the elimination of all mass destruction weapons. In this connection the importance of the new Soviet proposal on the elimination of medium-range missiles from Europe was particularly stressed. The two sides are categorical in their opinion that everything should be done to prevent the militarization of outer space.

Special attention was devoted during the talks to the situation in the geographical areas in which the two countries are situated, as well as other topical international problems and regional conflicts. It was stated with gratification that the stands of the two countries on the basic questions of the contemporary international situation are identical or similar.

The Bulgarian public welcomes with satisfaction the results of the Bulgarian-Chinese dialogue and the mutually expressed desire to further expand and intensify bilateral relations in the interest of the two friendly peoples, in the interest of the cause of peace and socialism in the world.

MLADENOV TO VISIT SPAIN 'END OF MARCH'

AU241917 Sofia BTA in English 1855 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Sofia, March 27 (BTA) -- At the invitation of Mr Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez, minister of foreign affairs of Spain, Mr Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, will pay an official visit to Spain at the end of March this year.

ATANASOV TO VISIT HUNGARY 'END OF MARCH'

AU201631 Sofia BTA in English 1510 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Sofia, March 20 (BTA) -- At the invitation of Mr Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, Mr Georgi Atanasov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, will pay an official visit of friendship to the Hungarian People's Republic at the end of March this year.

CTK CITES RUDE PRAVO ON U.S. SPACE ARMS PLANS

LD190929 Prague CTK in English 0600 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Prague March 19 (CTK) -- The Czechoslovak Communist Party newspaper RUDE PRAVO today criticized what it said were U.S. preparations for combat actions in space and added Washington apparently ignored proposals to turn outer space into a zone of peace.

"Washington sees space as a place for the deployment of its strike systems and a potential theatre for a military conflict. For Moscow, space is a place needing the expansion of peaceful cooperation," it said.

The paper said the fact that the U.S. has partically finished the development of its airborne ASAT anti-satellite system and continued that of laser anti-satellite weapons proved Washington was not interested in Soviet proposals for turning space into a zone of peace and international cooperation.

"The United States ignores proposals for a peaceful space put forward by the Soviet Union at the Reykjavik meeting, anxious to proceed as quickly as possible from research to the production and deployment of space weapons," it said.

RUDE PRAVO said the Soviet Union, in contrast, was striving for a ban on the anti-satellite systems as well as any other means of militarizing space, noting it had unilaterally halted the development of its own anti-satellite system four years ago.

"This is the difference between the stands of the two countries...on the important issue of space weapons," it stressed.

SAUL, USSR'S KONYSHEV SIGN STEEL AGREEMENT

LD250055 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] An agreement was signed today in Plzen on a joint Skoda-Uralmash engineering supply enterprise which will focus on the supply of cold rolling mills and on a processing line. This joint venture will be allowed to engage in foreign trade both for the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, and for other markets. The agreement was signed by Yuriy Konyshev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Minister's Bureau for Machine-Building; and Minister of Heavy Engineering Eduard Saul.

FOJTIK LEAVES FOR VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA 23 MAR

LD250007 Prague CTK in English 2208 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Prague March 24 (CTK) -- Alternate member of the Presidium and Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee Jan Fojtik left Tuesday for a friendly working visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee.

INDRA, STROUGAL OPEN JOINT CHAMBER MEETING

LD241122 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0900 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] The Chamber of the People and the Chamber of the Nations of the Federal Assembly met in Prague today at their fourth joint meeting. Vaclav Klement reports on the deliberations:

[Begin recording] The morning session was opened by Alois Indra, chairman of the Federal Assembly, who cordially welcomed, on behalf of the deputies, Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee General Secretary and president of the republic. Also present are other leading representatives of the party's Central Committee, officials of the National Front, social organizations, other political parties, and members of the Federal Government, headed by Premier Lubomir Strougal. After approving the agenda of the joint meeting of the two chambers, Comrade Alois Indra proposed that Deputy Jan Janik be elected deputy chairman of the Federal Assembly. Jan Janik became chairman of the Chamber of the Nations yesterday. The deputies then voted in a secret ballot and its result will be announced during the subsequent deliberations. At the moment on the agenda of the joint meeting of the two chambers is the second point.

Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal is reporting to the deputies about the government's fulfillment of its program statement adopted after last year's general election. His extensive explanation -- and we will acquaint you with it in the coming news bulletins -- should last about 70 minutes. The afternoon agenda of the joint meeting of the Chamber of the People and the Chamber of the Nations includes deputy talks on the Federal Government's report. [end recording]

[Prague Domestic Service in Czech at 1000 GMT on 24 March reports: "Alois Indra, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member, and federal assembly chairman, welcomed at the joint meeting of the Chambers Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary and president of the republic; Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal, and other members of the party Central Committee Presidium Ladislav Adamec, Vasil Bilak, Peter Colotka, Karel Hoffmann, Milos Jakes, Antonin Kapek, Josef Kempny, and Jozef Lenart; candidate members of the party Central Committee Presidium Vladimir Herman, Ignac Janak, and Frantisek Pitra; secretaries of the party Central Committee Mikulas Beno and Jindrich Polednik; Zdenek Horeni, member of the party Central Committee Secretariat; Jaroslav Hajn, CPCZ Central Control and Auditing Commission chairman; and other guests."]

HUSAK ADDRESS CONCLUDES CPCZ CC SESSION

AU242112 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 20 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "The Fifth CPCZ Central Committee Session Ends; Scientific-Technical Development Is Our Primary Revolution Task"]

[Excerpts] Prague -- The fifth CPCZ Central Committee session continued on Thursday [19 March] in Prague Castle's Spanish Hall with a discussion of the opening statement by Comrade Gustav Husak about the issues of further elaborating and realizing the program of the 17th CPCZ Congress and about using incentives provided by the CPSU Central Committee's January session, as well as a discussion on the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium report submitted by Comrade Milos Jakes. [passage omitted]

Comrade Gustav Husak spoke at the conclusion of the fifth CPCZ Central Committee session. To begin, he underscored the unanimity with which the Central Committee adopted the basic resolution on the further course of elaborating and realizing the program of the 17th Congress, and on the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium's report on accelerating scientific-technical development. The significance of this unanimity is particularly great in the current phase when the party, as the leading political force, bears responsibility for the correct accomplishment of retructuring of the great reforms in the economic and other spheres, so as to make them benefit our people and our socialist Czechoslovakia. The Central Committee reolution on these issues represents a uniform and binding line for the entire party, for all its agencies and organizations and for all Communists.

Now the decisive thing is to consistently implement the adopted conclusions in practical life and to ensure the unity of word and deed. In this context Comrade Husak stressed the need to enhance the critical view of shortcomings and to energetically have them eliminated. The method of adopting a critically exacting attitude must be a permanent feature of the work of all Communists and all party agencies and organizations.

Comrade Husak then pointed out that accomplishing the goals set by the party requires the people's broadly developed initiative. The prerequisite for this is the purposeful implementation of the line oriented toward deepening socialist democracy and taking full advantage of the opportunities our political system provides, while simultaneously elaborating and searching for more ways to expand the people's participation in management and administration, and more paths toward achieving democratization in the political, economic, and other spheres in the way we discussed this at the present session.

Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev's idea about "more socialism, more democracy" has profound logic. The more we speak with the people and the more broadly they share in decision-making, the better they will support and participate in the accomplishment of goals set for our socialist development. The enormous majority of our people is devoted to the socialist system and is sincerely interested in making things progress in our country; it is also determined to contribute to this through its work. The people must be approached with frankness and trust. We must establish an atmosphere of respect for the honest and conscientious work of workers, farmers, the intelligentsia, and all working people in all our political activities and in the activities of our communications media.

Speaking about the issues of scientific-technical progress with which the Central Committee has been dealing, Comrade Husak stated that this is one of the key issues in our further development. In this sector, too, we must raise demands, strive to make use of all existing opportunities, improve managements, improve the prerequisites for accomplishing the tasks, but also demand better results.

In connection with the results achieved in fulfilling this year's plan, Comrade Husak pointed out the need to speedily eliminate the shortfalls from the beginning of this year, to see to the regular course of production, and to devote great attention to all suppliers' precise adherence to their duties.

In conclusion, Comrade Husak stressed that the struggle for the great goals that we have set ourselves must be waged in the awareness that a better life for our people and the further upsurge of our fatherland depend on how we pursue these goals. The CPCZ Central Committee session ended with the "Internationale."

JAKES, FOJTIK SPEAK AT STATEWIDE MEDIA GATHERING

LD202326 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1500 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] The senior staff members of the media met on the conclusions of the Fifth Session of the CPCZ Central Committee in Prague today. Milos Jaks, Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, explained the course and the results of the CPCZ Central Committee session. Comrade Jakes; Jaromir Obzina, deputy federal premier and chairman of the State Commission for Scientific-Technical and Investment Development; and the chairman of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences answered numerous journalists' question. Jan Fojtik, candidate Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, spoke at the end of the meeting about the media's topical tasks that follow from the fifth session of the party Central Committee.

CONFERENCE REPORT VIEWS MEDIA-ARMY CONNECTION

AU171346 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 11 Mar 87 p 2

[CTK report: "National Conference"]

[Text] Prague (CTK) -- The executive staff of the mass information and propaganda media held a meeting, which dealt with enhancing the efficiency of paramiliary propaganda, in Prague yesterday [10 March]. Jan Fojtik, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium candidate member and Central Committee secretary, chaired the meeting. Colonel General Jaroslav Klicha, chief of the Main Political Administration of the Czechoslovak People's Army, submitted a report on the tasks of the press, radio, and television in this sphere. He explained the closed connection between the active struggle for peace and the enhancement of the combat and political preparedness of the Czechoslovak People's Army. He stated that paramilitary upbringing must be more efficient in shaping every citizen's sense of responsibility for building and defending the socialist fatherland, for assisting the consolidtion of the Army and the people, and for cultivating the young people's conscious attitude toward the Czechoslovak People's Army. Jan Fojtik stressed toward the end of the conference that it is essential to substantially intensify the raising of socialist patriotism and internationalism spirit -- which must be based on the grasp of the realities of our present world -- and to do this especially among young people. The conference was attended by CPCZ Central Committee department heads Vasil Bejda, Vladimir Blechta, and Otto Cmolik.

CZECH JOURNALIST CONGRESS OPENS IN PRAGUE 7 MAR

Report Outlines Activities

AU160851 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 9 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[CTK report: "In an Active, Conscious-Minded, Convincing Manner"]

[Excerpts] Prague (CTK) -- The Congress of the Czech Journalists' Union opened in Prague's Palace of Culture on Saturday [7 March] in a creative, businesslike atmosphere. Up to 450 delegates representing 4,660 union members welcomed in their midst a CPCZ Central Committe delegation led by Jan Fojtik, Presidium candidate member and Central Committee secretary of the CPCZ; a joint delegation of the Central Committees of the Czechoslovak and Slovak Journalists' Unions, headed by Stefan Bachar, deputy chairman of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Journalists' Union; and other guests.

The Central Committee of the Czech Journalists' Union report on the union's activities and on further tasks in implementing the 17th CPCZ Congress resolution was presented by Josef Valenta, chairman of the Central Committee of the Czech Journalists' Union, after the election of the commissions. [passage omitted]

Valenta pointed out that the attributes of socialist democracy include the principles of the information flow to the public and the development of criticism and self-criticism. We need criticism that is honest, frank, and not anonymous, criticism that strengthens socialism, supporting the creative spirit and dissatisfaction with what has been achieved; criticism that uncovers violations of legality and social justice and disruptions of the moral atmosphere in society and of social or moral values.

The party's basic strategic tasks in our country are closely linked with the party's international policy, permeated by a single effort: to halt feverish armament, avert nuclear war, and ensure conditions for peaceful creative work. In their work, the journalists must devote maximum attention to such issues as the political and economic security of socialist countries; the intensification of their political, economic, and scientific-technical cooperation; the internationalization of the economies of the CEMA member states; and the reliable ensurance of their collective defense and enhanced defense power.

The Auditing Commission of the Czech Journalists' Union report was presented by the commission's chairman Milos Kolisko and was followed by a discussion. [passage omitted]

The Congress of the Czech Journalists' Union was then greeted on behalf of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Journalists' Union by its chairman, Jan Risko. He stated that the current times require a critical-analytical approach to journalism. As he said, the times of generalities are over -- the times of specifics have come. Justified criticism of the party basis, criticism that is truthful and stimulates reflection, which leads to rectification, does not undermine our system -- on the contrary, it helps to consolidate our ties with socialism. Risko also pointed out the need to be more demanding in terms of the professional qualities of journalists and their responsibility for the written or spoken word. He called the approaches practiced by Soviet journalism, in which "glasnost" [word in Russian] is one of the orders of the day, an example worth emulating. [passage omitted]

The Congress of the Czech Journalists' Union continued in Prague's Palace of Culture yesterday [8 March] with a discussion.

Drahos Lustig from the CTK in Prague stated that news coverage from abroad, and particularly for the USSR, has been successfully improved within the framework of the restructuring of CTK information services. One of the future tasks is to raise the standards of information from other socialist countries, and to improve reporting on economic matters and domestic policy. [passage omitted] Dusan Machacek from the Prague studio of Czechoslovak Television noted that campaign-like criticism has been successfully eliminated; and that far fewer negative reactions to published criticism have been reaching the editorial offices recently than used to be the case as the result of the society-wide atmosphere of exacting demands, and of the "glasnost" principle which is being implemented in the USSR. [passage omitted]

The report of the mandate and election commission was followed by elections, after which the new Central Committee of the Czech Journalists' Union and the Central Auditing Commission of the Czech Journalists' Union convened for their first session. The Central Committee of the Czech Journalists Union elected Josef Valenta its chairman. [passage omitted]

Fojtik Addresses Session

AU160911 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 9 Mar 87 p 2

["From" the speech by Jan Fojtik, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, at the Congress of the Czech Union of Journalists in Prague on 8 March]

[Text] Jan Fojtik conveyed greetings to the congress delegates from the CPCZ Central Committee, the National Front Central Committee, and the Government of the Czech SR, and personal greetings from Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary and CSSR president. He said he appreciated the critical and self-critical tone of the Congress discussions, which showed the union's and editorial offices' conscientious approach to today's most important tasks.

He stressed that all the forces of society -- its entire creative potential -- must focus on the consistent and uncompromising implementation of the 17th CPCZ Congress program, which has been adopted by the National Front.

The information and propaganda media work to keep people informed and to mobilize them for the fulfillment of the 17th CPCZ Congress tasks was appreciated by the Fourth CPCZ Central Committee session last December. This assessment made us happy because it concerns one of the main directions -- and obviously the decisive direction -- of propaganda activity, Jan Fojtik said. But we have viewed the emphasis placed on the fact that journalism must consider the impact of its activity on public opinion and the working people's attitudes, and that it must react attentively to new phenomena, progressive trends, and new experiences in implementing the 17th CPCZ Congress resolutions. Its activity must strengthen unity of word and deed, and thus strengthen the faith of the broad strata in the party's policy. This is the most important aspect of our work today, Jan Fojtik stressed.

The Fourth CPCZ Central Committee session appreciated the information and propaganda media, but at the same time we still must consider that in the struggle to realize the congress program -- especially those tasks on which the efforts to realize the strategic intentions of the party's socioeconomic policy depend -- we have not done all that is necessary. This is all the more so, since the assessment of the period following the 17th CPCZ Congress shows that the most responsible managing agencies have neglected the practical realization of the acceleration strategy of socioeconomic development adopted under the inspiring influence of the 27th CPSU Congress. The main thing we must focus our strength on now, the thing tht must become the centerpiece of our activity in the information and propaganda media is to help bridge the gap between the declared strategic objectives and the absolutely inadequate degree to which they have been concretized and realized in practice. By its nature and orientation our propaganda must determine this.

The 17th CPCZ Congress program is detailed enough to indicate clear directions of concretization at all levels of management and throughout society. It also provides sufficient scope as regards implementation. It is obvious that the information and propaganda media must truthfully reflect the entire process with the aim of involving in it not only all competent people, but also the broadest strata of society, work collectives,and citizens. It must show what success is being achieved in ensuring this process, what concrete progress is being made, what stands in its way, and what has to be done to ensure its success.

Does this not involve criticism that many people will react to with hostility? Especially those who would like to hide their attitudes behind various phrases, obscuring who they really are? Is it not more than a difficult job? There is no alternative but to embark on this difficult course if the information and propaganda media are to fulfill their current function: to serve the party and the people in the struggle for real, and not merely professed or simulated, progress.

Fojtik then spoke about the application of Soviet experience, above all the stimuli of the restructuring being carried out in the USSR. Fojtik said the question, which cannot be posed any other way, is: What applies to us as regards restructuring? The answer is: All the essential things. However, one has to ask: What does this mean specifically? How will the managing agencies ensure this in our country? It is obvious that in this regard our conditions, special features, differences in development and our situation must be respected. A suit is a suit, but it must be made to measure. If a person is 1.60m tall, he should not buy a suit for a person 2m tall. It all depends on a concrete approach. And that, if it is to be successful, must not ignore the unity of the general, the special, and the unique. That, after all, is among the axioms of dialectics being taught in schools.

Last November's Moscow summit clearly determined rules governing relations among the countries of our community. We must respect the sovereignty of every country and its experience and specifics if we are to strengthen unity so that it is not formalistic and if we are to restore the authority and prestige of socialism. Otherwise, we would not be able to implement the general objective laws of socialist construction and the theory of Leninism, which is binding for us, at all. Only a creative application of this theory, taking into consideration the conditions, specifics, and the requirement of development in a given country, will guarantee the success of the policy of each Marxist-Leninist party without exception.

Gottwald's saying that the relationship with the USSR is the touchstone of internationalism and patriotism still applies, Jan Fojtik continued. And so does the fact that this relationship must be built not on expediency, but on a thorough comprehension of the Soviet Union's role in the struggle against imperialism for social progress and peace. Boldness and courage must be shown in the practical approach to the problems with which our society is confronted with a Leninist assessment of all phenomena and a critical relationship toward everything that harms socialism and retards its development. The January plenum of the CPSU Central Committee was an example of this Leninist method, of principled policy, and principled conduct. We live in an era of great changes, when we have to proceed from experiences and rely on them, while not neglecting or overlooking arising out of the new needs. In connection with the restructuring, the terms "human factor" and "glasnost" [word in Russian] are of particular importance to us. Activation of the human factor means the purposeful molding and social and working self-assertion of man, who feels he is the manager of common property; the real master in his own home, who knows his duties toward the collective and his responsibility for the common cause -- socialist construction. Activation of the human factor depends mainly on the development of socialist democracy, the consolidation of socialist order at worksites and in the life of the cities and villages, and the elimination of everything that generates despotism and cripples people's creativity and initiative.

"Glasnost" is closely connected with this, too. It would be one-sided to reduce its importance merely to providing information coupled with criticism. There is more than that involved: The character of the policy of a Leninist party must be aware that everything it wants to achieve must be done with people, with their active and conscious participation. "Glasnost" is necessary if what we are requiring of our work collectives and citizens -- that they be active and use their initiative -- is not to sound formalistic. [paragraph continued]

Who else but the information and propaganda media can reflect this period, with all its serious problems, with the things that are carried over from the past, the things it is striving for, and the tasks it has set itself? The information media are the platform of democracy and their work must be in accordance with this fact.

Jan Fojtik then discussed the demand for a new way of thinking and a new approach. He said that thinking along new lines presupposes a certain criticism of things that have become invalid or are becoming no longer valid, things that prevent an influx of fresh ideas and stimuli, things that have become obsolete or simplified, and things that have led to the well-known and undesirable tendency to see things in black and white. We must orient all our propaganda and agitation toward the living problems of our society, the things that interest and bother people, and the search for answers so the people can correctly orient themselves to the events of the times and among the things that are happening around them. A schematic course of action -- when issues were often artifically fabricated -- did considerable harm to our propaganda's credibility. It paralyzed mass political work, work with the people and serious everyday dialogue with them, such as Communists. It particularly paralyzed the work-responsible functionaries, whatever the sector in which they work, are obliged to conduct at the work place.

Thinking along the new lines does not mean discarding the theoretical weapons of Marxism-Leninism, but assimilating them as conscientiously as possible. It means thinking in categories of materialist dialectics, using them in the search for answers to the questions of today, whether they concern socialist construction, its problems and prospects, the directions of its development, or the international situation, the continuing historical confrontation between socialism and capitalism in the world, which is the subject of our current epoch and into which we are dragged, which influences us and determines our actions and our most important decisions, although we do not always, or not all of us, realize it.

Is there any common denominator on which we could safely rely when defining what we call the new way of thinking? And who will guarantee this term will not become an empty phrase, that its content will really be concrete, or that it will include the experience of long-term development, the entire evolution of socialism, and at the same time express that which is alive in the present? This denominator is the creative assimilation of Marxist-Leninist dialectics and the ability to apply them when interpreting present phenomena, an interpretation that enables us to have an aware, active relationship with these phenomena and makes us co-creators of what is happening rather than passive observers. When we say we have to think along new lines, we are also saying above all that we must react to present needs and the scientific-technical revolution. It is necessary to implement such an interpretation of democracy as one completely detached from the arbitrariness of cult practice [zvola kultovnej praxe], the fetishization of any person or institution or with bureaucratism. It is an interpretation of democracy that requires everyone to consider his own responsibility to the collective in which he works and lives and to his fatherland. It requires him not to be always making excuses, to behave like a petty bourgeois, like a man who concentrates only on his own, frequently illusory, well-being, but like a man who is a real citizen of a new community in which the idea of socialism is being realized despite all the distortions and setbacks.

Those who get enthusiastic about the new way of thinking and welcome every fashionable novelty that comes from the West in ideology or in the way of life; people who are captives of technocracy, of a positivist approach to reality, which is proud of realism but essentially identifies it with low pragmatism, which has got into the bloodstream of many people in our country, can admittedly -- especially when a tidal wave against dogmatism is rising -- put on a progressive, modern face, but their world outlook and attitudes have nothing in common with the new way of thinking.

When we say it is necessary to think along new lines, we mean it is necessary to rid ourselves of ideas about socialism molded for years by the uneconomic, extensive development of the economy. We must rid ourselves of the psychology accustomed to waste, to expecting handouts, to everyone always having the right to demand something, to criticizing everything around them, with no one daring to ask him what qualities he has, about his initative, and about his personal share in the growth of social wealth. It means to begin realizing that this essentially parasitic and immensely comfortable attitude is at variance with the ethics of the present times. The present times exalt the attributes of a person who is purposefully preparing himself for his duties arising from the economic intensification, the acceleration strategy, and the dynamization of the social system.

Fojtik concluded that special importance of the new way of thinking in international relations emanates from the need for peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems and from respect for the sovereign will of nations. It is important that the new way of thinking overcomes the old way of thinking, which proceeds from the position of strength and threatens the very existence of mankind. The primary duty of our propaganda's instruments, of our journalism, is to place all abilities and talent at the service of the struggle to comprehend this present fundamental dilemma. Everybody must understand that socialism is the guarantee of progress and peace, of the future of nations, of being able to arrange one's life freely in accordance with the ideals which the most prominent thinkers worked their way to in a complex historical development; thinkers who in quite a few cases paid the highest price for their courage -- they laid down their lives at the blazing stake of the reactionary inquisition.

REPORT CRITICIZES SVAZARM ACTIVITY IN SLOVAKIA

AU171147 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 16 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[PRAVDA staff journalist Peter Ondera report: "Members of Svazarm in the Spirit of the Fulfillment of the Intents of the Fourth CPCZ Central Committee Session; Let's Not Play in Our Own Sandbox"]

[Excerpts] Bratislava (our correspondent Peter Ondera) -- Colonel Andrej Pollak, head of a department of the Slovak Central Committee of Svazarm [Union For Cooperation With the Army], delivered a speech at the recent extraordinary session of the Slovak Central Committee of Svazarm in Bratislava that attracted attention. He chose a remarkable theme for his contribution to the discussion -- he tried to formulate the tasks of the Svazarm organization in light of the fourth session of the CPCZ Central Committee and the session of the CPSL Central Committee. In what respect should and could the approach of Svazarm members be new?

Everybody knows the "sore spots" of the organization, which has almost 400,000 members today. These are, in the first place, the effectiveness of the political-educational work and educating of the youth to socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism. There is no use in hiding things -- although Svazarm's territorial agencies have an extensive ideological aktiv and the statistics of the number of organized events can be dumbfounding, their effect is insufficient. Sociological surveys show that some young people do not comprehend imperialism's reactionary substance or the danger of a war breaking out. They regard this as abstract; there have been signs of pacifism cropping up, as well as views about the uselessness of paramilitary education.

Such views also affect the relationship between recruits and the Czechoslovak People's Army service, the quality of the selection of students for military schools, and ultimately the general comprehension of our combat and revolutionary traditions. "Members of Svazarm i Slovakia are organizing some 100 sports events having a commemorative character," Colonel Pollak says. "However, it is sufficient to go to the Sokolov paramilitary fitness race and ask what the participants in it know about Sokolov. It could happen that even the winner will shrug his shoulders..."

In some districts, participants do not know anything about the hero, in whose honor the commemorative race is being organized. [passage omitted]

In many Svazarm organizations the "playing in one's own sandbox" prevails to date; instead of activities permeated by paramilitary mission, they are devoting themselves to "hobbies" only. Engineers, closed off in an electronic club, are constructing things of little use; and Svazarm enterprise organizations do not always succeed in utilizing the creative potential of their members for the benefit of the national economy. [passage omitted]

BRIEFS

LUHOVY USSR VISIT -- Ladislav Luhovy, CSSR minister of general engineering, concluded his working visit to the USSR and left Moscow for home on 10 March. In the USSR he discussed cooperation in engineering, especially in the sphere of comprehensive automation. [Summary] [Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 11 Mar 87 p 7 AU]

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS WITH CUBA -- Representatives of foreign trade organizations, Strojexport Praha, and Uneca Havana signed contracts on construction projects in Prague on 12 March. Cuban organizations will help construct a children's hospital in Bratislava and help produce halls for streetcars in the CKD Tatra Zlicin enterprise. The construction work is valued at R1.7 million. [Summary] [Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 13 Mar 87 p 2 AU]

BOTTLE FACTORY FOR CUBA -- The CSSR and the USSR will help construct a bottle factory in the western cuban city of Pinar del Rio. Construction will begin in the ourse of this 5-year plan. The factory's final production capacity will be 300 milli bottles annually. The CSSR will mainly deliver farming machinery. [Summary] [Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 11 Mar 87 p 7 AU]

DAILY ON KOHL FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT 20 MAR

AU232059 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 20 Mar 87 p 2

[Horst Loeffler editorial: "Bonn Has Not Learned Enough"]

[Text] For understandable topical reasons, special significance is to be attributed to the foreign policy part of Kohl's government statement. What consequences does the largest government party draw from its (foreign policy) election defeat? What is Bonn's answer to the dynamics in international relations? What is the chancellor's reaction to Gorbachev's and Honecker's internationally recognized peace offensive?

Kohl was quite aware of the problems he had to settle. No person, thinking realistically, could expect the chancellor to remove at once the obstacles he has built himself. He has neither the political stature nor the required influence. What kind of "solution" did he seek instead? Two examples are characteristic of his way of tackling problems.

First example: He comments on Gorbachev's new initiative-rich foreign policy in the following words: "If his course provides changes for more understanding, for more cooperation and, above all, for concrete results in disarmament and arms build-up control, we will take them up." Where does Kohl live, what is he waiting for? one has to ask. The truth is that the time has long come for everybody to become active, not to wait any longer. Bonn -- so it seems -- has great difficulties in untying itself from Washington's apron strings, and this, at a time when charity begins at home for the gentlemen around Reagan.

Second example: Despite numerous statements on German-German relations, there is no word from the chancellor on Honecker's proposal that representives from both governments should hold an exchange of views on how Bonn and Berlin can make a constructive contribution with regard to the intermediate-range nuclear missile issue. A blackout can hardly have been the reason for the silence of the chancellor who a few days earlier had signalled his approval. What can one rely on now, what is going to come? To leave this out of consideration, to ignore it is not sufficient. One is irritated.

These two examples will demonstrate that Kohl has learned something in the past months, but he has not passed the examination. His chance lies in the "oral part."

REPORTAGE ON HORST SINDERMANN VISIT TO JAPAN

Meets With Nakasone

LD241524 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1019 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, 24 Mar (ADN) -- Horst Sindermann, president of the people's chamber of the GDR, deputy chairman of the Council of State and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, was received today in Tokyo by Yasuhiro Nakasone, prime minister of Japan. Horst Sindermann conveyed warm greetings from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, which Nakasone received with thanks. He then reciprocated with good wishes for the GDR head of state.

During their meeting, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, the two statesmen paid tribute to the successful development of relations between the GDR and Japan, relations based on the principles of peaceful coexistence. They expressed satisfaction with the active, constructive political dialogue, the upswing in mutually advantageous trade and economic relations, and the lively cultural exchanges between both countries. They supported the further expansion and deepening of mutually beneficial collaboration.

Prime Minister Nakasone assessed the relations between Japan and the GDR as being in a very advanced stage. He expressed his pleasure that, with the guest appearance planned for this year of the Kabuki theater in the cultural metropolis of Berlin, traditional Japanese art would be represented there as well. He attached great value to the results of his visit to the GDR in January of this year, and the constructive exchange of opinions conducted with Erich Honecker on that occasion. He described his trip to the GDR as a concrete contribution to improving East-West relations, far exceeding the bilateral framework.

Yasuhiro Nakasone stressed his country was striving to work for political dialogue and peace in the world. He said that it was gratifying that the Soviet Union and the United States had now initiated talks on the issue of medium-range missiles.

The president of the People's Chamber stressed the supreme interest of the GDR to do everything to secure peace. This was why the GDR welcomed and actively supported the latest proposal from the Soviet Union to conclude a separate agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles of the USSR and the United States in Europe. Such a step would be of historical consequence for the securing of peace, and for the prevention of nuclear weapons all round.

In this connection, Horst Sindermann referred to Erich Honecker's proposal to the federal chancellor of the FRG that negotiations be started up in order to make a contribution to the withdrawal of all nuclear weapons from the territories of the two German states. Taking part in the meeting was the ambassador of the GDR in Japan, Dieter Jaeger.

Speaks With JCP Chairman

LD241130 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0757 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, 24 Mar (ADN) -- Today in Tokyo Horst Sindermann, president of the people's chamber of the GDR and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, held a friendly conversation with Tetsuzo Fuwa, chairman of the Central Committee Presidium of the Communist Party of Japan [JCP]. Both sides expressed support for expanding relations between the SED and the JCP. They also exchanged views on international issues and briefed one another on the tasks of their parties.

Discusses Bilateral Relations

LD250951 East Berlin ADN Internatioal Service in German 0658 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, 25 Mar (ADN) -- In Tokyo today, the GDR parliamentary delegation led by People's Chamber President Horst Sindermann discussed the improvement of parliamentary relations with representatives of the parliamentary Japan-GDR friendship groups in the upper and lower houses of the Japanese Diet. [paragraph continues]

During the animated discussion, both sides stressed the fact that the exchange of ideas on the role and activities of parliaments for peace and disarmament should be brought even more to the center of joint work.

There was also discussion about giving new impetus at the parliamentary level to the intensification of successfully developing bilateral relations.

WILLI STOPH SPEAKS AT DFD CONGRESS 6 MAR

AU110600 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 7-8 Mar 87 pp 3-4

["Speech by Willi Stoph, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers" at the 12th National Congress of the Demcratic Women's League (DFD) in East Berlin on 6 March]

[Text] Dear DFD Delegates, comrades, and esteemed foreign guests:

On behalf of the SED Central Committee I would like to convey most comradely greetings to the 12th DFD national congress. (strong applause)

It is a particular pleasure for me to covey to you the personal greetings of Comrade Erich Honeckerr, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council. (prolonged strong applause)

This congress brings together women from all classes and strata, from the most varied professions and activities, women who are doing great honorary work. It impressively reflects the will and ability of the women and girls to take part, with their hearts and minds, in the overall strengthening of the GDR and the preservation of peace.

Recognition of the DFD's Achievements [subhead]

The report of the National Executive Committee given by DFD chairwoman Ilse Thiele and the heart-warming discussions impressively show the great results achieved in preparing for the 12th national congress.

From the very beginning of its work, the DFD, which was founded almost exactly 40 years ago, has been standing reliably and loyally at the side of the SED, the leading power in our GDR. (strong applause)

In his speech before the first Kreis secretaries on 6 February 1987 Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, praised this work, which was undoubtedly seen by the DFD members as a spur to continuing the successful path of the women's organization. (strong applause)

Dear friends, at this congress our Central Committee's delegation experiences great joy at the active and concrete way your organization is participating in implementing the decisions of the 11th party congress. Wide-ranging initiatives have aimed at consistently continuing the tested course of the unity of economic and social policy, whih has proved itself as a firm foundation of trusting cooperation between party and people.

Since the Eighth SED Congress, we have created important foundations for a continuous, dynamic economic growth by switching the national economy to comprehensive intensification and by more closely linking science and production.

The produced national income, as an expression of the growth in national economic performance and efficiency, more than doubled in 1986 compared with 1970. National economic labor productivity has been raised to 198 percent. Industrial goods production per workday increased from M0.9 billion in 1970 to M1.9 billion in 1986.

These are unique achievements, and everybody knows that we have not come by them coincidentally. They reflect the creative work of all working people in the GDR, of the young people, and, not least, of the women in our country.

Preconditions for Claiming Equal Rights [subhead]

Our policy of full employment, social security and protection, equal education opportunities for all children, the development of a rich cultural life and of an exemplary health service is a policy for the welfare and happiness of the people, for the interests of the workers class and all working people.

The fact that since 1971 more than 2.6 billion apartments have been built or modernized, and that housing conditions for almost 8 million citizens have been considerably improved, stresses this very clearly.

Great opportunities have been created for the development of women's personalities. Many necessary conditions have been made effective, which permit women to better harmonize work, motherhood, and the welfare of the family, as was stressed in the discussions of this congress. This is proved by more than 4.8 million women and girls in our country who are working, learning, or studying; 82.4 percent of all working women have completed their training. More than 34 percent of women are working in responsible functions in the state and the economy.

All this permits us to say: It is not equality between woman and man in socialist society that ensures the unfolding of all their abilities and talents but the accompanying creation of material and other conditions that makes it possible to take advantage of this equal rights.

Dear delegates, in many letters the women expressed their satisfaction about the comprehensive balance sheet of our successful social policy that was recently published in NEUES DEUTSCHLAND.

Let us recall some important facts:

-- We are granting interest-free loans to young couples to enable them to start their lives together;
-- All working mothers receive 26 weeks of pregnancy and maternity leave;
-- Birth allowance of M1,000 per child and the granting of 1 year of paid leave after the birth of the first and second child, and 1 and 1/2 years as of the third child;
-- As of 1 May 1987 the children's allowance will be reaised. Then M50 will be paid for the first child, M100 for the second, and M150 for the third child and all following children;
-- In case of the children's falling ill paid leave from work is generously granted;

-- Last year alone 21,983 places in kindergartens, and 11,368 places in nurseries were established; 84 percent of the children up to 3 years old are cared for in nurseries, and all children can attend kindergarten until they enter school.

The GDR is a State With True Social Security, in Which One Can Work and Live Well [subhead]

We can correctly state that our course of unity of economic and social policy represents the realization of basic human rights. The GDR is a state with true social security, a state in which people can work and live well. Women and men, girls and boys, have the opportunity to freely develop their personality and to have a secure future.

Our developed socialist society is characterized by mutual trust, comradely cooperation, and possibilities for active participation by each individual in management and planning.

There is no doubt that the effect of the sociopolitical measures has made possible the high degree of employment of women -- 91.3 percent. This, on the other hand, is an essential factor in our success. It is proof of the creative work of the women, that they contribute to the great national economy initiatives and performances in the socialist competition.

Dear delegates, each of knows that the 1987 plan year is of great importance for reaching the targets of the 5-year plan. During the first 2 months of this year extraordinary achievements were accomplished under harsh frost conditions. As a result of new initiatives of the working people after the deliberations of the SED central Committee Secretariat with the first Kreis secretaries, the production plans in industry, agriculture, and the construction sector were overfulfilled in February. In the sector of industry ministries alone, the plan lead in industrial goods production has reached M346 million since the beginning of the year. In order to show the high awareness and readiness for work behind these achievements I would like to cite one example, which has already been mentioned here: In the coal and energy sector, 80,000 women, including more than 22,000 directly in material production, contributed during the hard days of winter to make the coal trains roll day after day to ensure energy and heat.

Dear delegates, with the 1986-90 5-Year Plan we consistently continue the economic strategy of the 11th SED Congress with a view to the year 2000. The main issue is to achieve great economic and social progress through comprehensive intensification and through closely linking production and science.

This 5-year-plan period will be characterized by the broad application of the key technologies. The above-average growth rates in the production of microelectronic component parts and the development of new circuits will make it possible to establish 85,000 to 90,000 CAD/CAM workstations during this period, to produce 160,000 to 170,000 office and personal computers, and to introduce in industry another 75,000 to 80,000 robots, including 10,000 to 12,000 process-flexible industrial robots. Numerically controlled processing centers and flexible automated manufacturing lines will be introduced in many enterprises. All this requires the working people to adjust in time to working with the new technology and with the new equipment. This is being consistently prepared.

Highly Trained Women Master New Technologies [subhead]

The further qualification leads to truly revolutionary processes, in which the women and girls are participating with great dedication. High training and extensive professional experience enable them to master technology. About 40 percent of all participants in advanced training are women. Over the past decade their number has increased considerably in those economic branches where the scientific-technological revolution is going on most of all. Almost 40 percent of the employees in the research development branches of industry are women. In 1986 alone, 1,927 women registered inventions, including some in such important sectors as electrical engineering and electronics, instrument building, fine mechanics, radio and television industry.

In 1970 about 140,000 women participated in the innovators' movement. In 1986 almost 700,000 women did so. Thus the proportion of women in this movement rose from 21.2 to more than 34 percent.

Let us take other examples: In chemical industry one out of three employees in material production is a woman. By purposeful basic and advanced training they are prepared for the mastering of modern key technologies.

In the Microelectronics Combine there are about 55,000 working people, including more than 27,000 women. Among them, 3,920 have undergone university or technical school training, 360 are master craftsmen, and 17,292 are skilled workers. More than 1,000 female employees in this combine are working in a leading function.

In short: Our women have come out of the so-called "typical women's jobs" and are actively participating in the work at the control levers of scientific-technological progress and of the further performance development of the national economy. (strong applause) At the same time their work becomes easier, because in socialism, comprehensive modernization and intensification go hand in hand with the reduction of work hardships and the development of the socialist work culture.

Dear delegates, ladies and gentlemen, in May 1987 the 13th Peasants Congress in Schwerin will be an important event in the life of our socialist society. The discussion on the draft resolution has been developing in a broad and manifold way in all sectors of agricultural production.

Much Has Been Achieved That Makes Life in the Villages Easier [subhead]

It is gratifying to note that the female cooperative peasants and workers are taking part in this in a self-confident and dedicated way. With their labor feats, their experiences, clever ideas, and with their initiatives, they have made a great contribution to implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress.

Today the performance increase of the socialist agriculture and the further shaping of the working and living conditions in our villages is being conducted as a uniform process.

In the socialist competition, varied initiatives are being carried out in order to ensure stable supply to our population at all times, and thus to make life in the villages even more beautiful.

In agriculture, too, outstanding achievements were accomplished during the year of the 11th party congress. [paragraph continues]

The production of 11.7 million metric tons of grain achieved in 1986 and the considerable overfulfillment of the plans for animal products are of great economic importance. This would be inconceivable without the industrious work and the dedication of the women, without their active participation in mastering scientific-technological progress.

Due to the greater tasks facing us, the cooperatives' executive committees and the enterprises' management should pay even more attention to the words and deeds of female peasants and workers. During this harsh winter it has been shown how important this is.

How much effort have the women in the LPG's and state farms expended preserving the life of new-born piglets and calves; in their solicitous peasant way, they even took them into warm rooms of their homes if necessary. And it was not only love for the animals but also responsibility for their tasks that determined their attitude. This was also the way in which the gardeners in the green houses and the workers in the dairies and meat enterprises carried out their tasks.

It is very gratifying that women take increasing advantage of villages' manifold and increased opportunities for education and cultural activities. Demands are increasing, and the DFD groups are well advised to always keep this in mind. Close cooperation with the local organizations of the Peasants Mutual Aid Organization, the executive committees of the LPG's, and the state farms managements has proved its worth.

In the great community work of all social forces, much has made the work of women in villages easier: nurseries and kindergartens for small children, shopping centers for adequate supplies, or village meeting rooms [Bauernstuben] for pleasant meetings after work. Much has already been achieved, but some things still remain to be done.

We are certain that at the 13th GDR Peasants Congress a useful and future-oriented exchange of experiences will also take place with respect to the further advancement of women.

Leading Functions for More Women Urged [subhead]

Their great achievements in industry, agriculture, and in all other areas are a good reason for our party to strongly urge that larger numbers of women be given leading functions in economy, state, and society. This task was clearly reflected in the speech of Comrade Erich Honecker before the first kreis secretaries. It will certainly have met with your full approval. (strong applause)

Dear ladies, esteemed guests, work is also carried out with great dedication in the areas of trade, services, catering, and the crafts to reliably secure supply to the population. This is shown by 1986's retail trade turnover, the highest ever; M117.8 billion. It is the great responsibility of those working in these sectors to sell a piece of satisfaction to the client with every commodity. Who knows better than women that the extent to which people convincingly perceive economic success in everyday life depends mainly on quality and quantity, informed service, speedy services in line with demand, courtesy, and due care.

In all this, efforts are to be directed toward continuing to steadfastly and reliably provide supplies of basic consumer goods and products for our children and young people, to providing more new consumer goods in high quality and in the adequate quantity, and to steadily improving the standard of catering services and of services in general. This requires us to make the practice-tested forms of cooperation between production and trade fully effective.

Solutions in the Interest of the Citizens Are Most Important [subhead]

And one thing more: Given the high number of working women, speedy and economical shopping, as well as the strict observance of opening hours, are particularly important. This and other requirements make it necessary for the working people in the service institutions to work as efficiently as possible, in particular at those times when the number of clients is at its peak.

We are paying particular attention to improving working and living conditions in the field of trade and catering, where most workers are women. There are not few women who have leading functions in shops, department stores, and hotels, and are responsible for supply to an entire bezirk, kreis, or city.

The conscious promotion of cooperative and private crafts, in particular, by means of an active trade policy, has contributed to expanding and improving the services to clients over the past years. For many working women in private trade and crafts, the DFD has become a political home. Through the DFD they are directly integrated into social life. This should be continued consistently. (applause)

For decades numerous DFD groups have developed close relations with trade installations in their residential areas. This cooperation brings many positive results -- in particular joint solutions in the interest of the citizens are found, and this, after all, is the most important thing.

Fondness for Children Is Characteristic of Socialism [subhead]

Dear delegates, the achievements of women in the spheres of education and health care are great. Fondness for children is characteristic of socialism, and the beneficial development of all children in peace and social security is a matter of particular concern to our society. With great political responsibility and personal commitment, 270,000 women are working as pedagogues and are successfully trying to convey solid knowledge to the children and young people, and to prepare them well for life in the spirit of the ideals of the workers class. The close, trusting cooperation between schools and parents, and the participation of many social forces take place on this basis. The DFD makes an important contribution to this, which is reflected particularly in the work of school delegates in parents representative bodies, and in the support of varied extracurricular activities.

The great achievements of our Republic also include the low rate of infant mortality, the reduction or elimination of the once feared childhood infectious diseases, and the exemplary health care given to children and young people. More health in socialism is a result of the good work of doctors and nurses, but also an expression of the generally increased quality of living in our country. (strong applause)

By 1990 we will have further developed the health sector. This requires increasing personnel, material, and financial funding. At the same time, more attention has to be paid to preventive health care. Everyone knows that parents, particularly mothers, have a decisive role in this. Much depends on their influence and on their education regarding familiarizing their children with hygiene, sensible eating habits, physical activity, and physical development during childhood. We therefore welcome the fact that the DFD actively supports this, especially through its counseling centers. (strong applause)

Dear delegates: In line with the proven principle "Participate in working, in planning, in governing!" women, as equal citizens, are taking part in the leadership of the state and society. Today 37.7 percent of all deputies, from the People's Chamber to the local authorities, are women. With the authority of its representatives, the DFD has taken part in every stage of development in the shaping of social life and legislation.

Trying To Reach New Quality in Communal Policy [subhead]

In line with the law on local elected assemblies, we are trying to reach a new quality in our socialist communal policy. It plays a particularly important role in the everyday life of working mothers and of families. The more women actively participate in improving housing conditions, in the work of the trade and service sectors, in health and social care, in cultural and leisure activities, the stronger the trusting relationship between state and citizens will continue to develop. How much the experiences of women are appreciated on the communal level is proven by the fact that more than 30 percernt of our towns and villages are being administered by mayoresses in a responsible way, with heart and reason. (applause)

I would like to cite another essential chapter of truly democratic practice in the state. While in many bourgeois states women are mostly symbolically represented in the judiciary by the blindfolded Goddess of Justice, in our country thousands of educated and experienced women are working in state and social administration of justice. One out of two judges, one out of two lay assessors, and almost one out of two members of conflict and arbitration commissions are women. (applause)

For decades the DFD has proven to be an effective force in the tried and tested alliance of the National Front. In the latter's committees alone, over 116,000 women from all classes perform dedicated work. In particular in the special house communities, they are tirelessly working for the common good.

It is also inconceivable to do without their performances in the "Beautify our towns and villages -- Join In!" citizens initiative. A few days ago the expanded meeting of the National Front National Council approved the program of this citizens initiative until 1990. It provides for great tasks, the fufillment of which requires the overall active participation of the women.

Over the past 2 days much has been reported on the great achievements of millions of women and girls. And how much else would have to be said in order to pay tribute to all their achievements every day! For all this we would like to thank you, dear women and girls, from all our heart -- in particular on behalf of the men. (long-lasting strong applause)

Dear delegates, ladies and gentlemen, socialism can make progress only in peaceful work. Socialism and peace are inseparably linked. "The SED," says our party program, "consistently works to preserve peace and to consolidate international security." We are acting in this spirit. Peace, peace, and again peace -- this was, is, and remains the GDR'S state doctrine. (sustained, strong applause)

The women understand very well that social progress, social security, happiness, and prosperity can only be achieved in peace. It is they and the children who suffer most painfully in cases of military conflict.

All Peoples Should Have a Peaceful, Secure Future [subhead]

All peoples in our world should have a peaceful, secure future. Our world must not be the toy of the forces of destruction and devastation. Unfortunately, we must note today that the danger of a nuclear war has not been banished as yet. The United States' adherence to the Star Wars Program and Washington's pulling back from SALT II prevent an easing of tensions in the international situation.

In view of these facts, awareness is growing that all states and peoples interested in peace, all people who are guided by reason and realism, must come together. Day by day we experience how more and more people of different political views, women and men, scientists, and politicians, members of all classes and strata are working to preserve peace. The recent Peace Forum in Moscow showed this in a very convincing way.

If we take stock of the course of recent international development, it cannot be overlooked that the policy of dialogue and cooperation helps to prepare the way to reach agreements on which the improvement of the world situation, concrete measures for disarmament, and normal relations depend. Today, the world public sees much more clearly who is in favor of peace, detente, and disarmament and who is against these things.

Since the Great October Socialist Revolution 70 years ago, the Soviet Union has been struggling for peace. The international situation strengthens our determination to continue the struggle for peace, together with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the community of socialist states. The political, economic, and social progress achieved to date proves that socialism is capable of securing peaceful conditions, and of meeting all challenges of the present and the future.

The chances to enter a nuclear-free millennium are real. If the United States were to stop its nuclear tests, as has been repeatedly proposed and practiced for a long time by the Soviet Union, an important step would be taken to finally halt the arms race, which is currently accelerating.

USSR Initiative Leads Complex Disarmament Problems Out of a Blind Alley [subhead]

Practical agreements on arms limitation and disarmament are not only necessary but also possible, as became evident at the Reykjavik meeting. Every realistically thinking person realizes that one must talk with the other side and must negotiate according to the principle of equality and equal security when the existence or nonexistence of mankind is involved. A reasonable basis for this are the proposals submitted by Comrade Gorbachev for freeing the world from all nuclear weapons by the year 2000 as well as the proposals of the Warsaw Treaty member-states for conventional disarmament from the Atlantic to the Urals.

A significant step was taken with the new Soviet initiative for immediately concluding a special agreement to completely eliminate intermediate-range missiles in Europe, thereby extricating the complex of disarmament problems from the deadlock. The GDR party-state leadership accordingly affirmed that it is possible, immediately after the signing of such an agreement, to remove operational-tactical missiles of greater range deployed on the GDR's territory. At the same time Comrade Honecker addressed a message to Chancellor Kohl expressing hope that the FRG Government would plead with its allies for the realization of these proposals.

The socialist states' peace program does not exclude any type of arms and comprises an effective system of verification. This program considers the fact that at present, security for all peoples can be achieved only through all peoples. [paragraph continues]

It could be possible to banish wars from the life of mankind by means of radical disarmament and to thus begin a peaceful age. We cannot permit this inspiring prospect to come to nothing. Our party insists that our country, located on the dividing line between the military-political blocs in the heart of Europe, will do its utmost to ensure that war will never again emanate from German soil but that peace will. (prolonged strong applause)

Many Examples of Active Solidarity [subhead]

Dear delegates, we are pleased to be once more able to note today that the DFD has earned trust and prestige in the international women's movement with its constructive work over many years. The numerous foreign delegations participating in the congress are able to see for themselves that the GDR supports the aspirations of all countries' women to peace and equal collaboration between peoples not only in words but also with concrete deeds. Peace, friendship and solidarity -- this slogan determines our actions. (prolonged strong applause)

There were many examples of solidarity displayed at this congress. For example, with Sandino's people, who are defending themselves against the U.S. policy of threats and blackmail, with the people of El Salvador and their liberation movement, and with the people of Chile who are heroically and self-sacrificingly struggling to overthrow the Pinochet regime. We are deeply worried about the situation in Lebanon and call for a halt to the armed clashes and an end of the fratricide.

We are linked by firm solidarity with the struggle of the peoples in southern Africa, for the end of the disgraceful apartheid, for the freedom of Nelson Mandela. (stormy applause) At this hour our greetings also go to the indomitable Winnie Mandela and to all patriots, to all women and girls who are joining the worldwide movement for peace and happiness. (prolonged stormy applause)

Dear delegates,
Women and men comrades,
Distinguished guests:

You can be proud of what you have achieved, of the tireless activities of your members who with good reason enjoy high social respect for their good work. Everyone here in the hall feels the great activity. It became evident in many examples how particularly close the DFD groups are to women's and families' daily lives and what they contribute to the people's well-being.

I must once more cordially thank you on behalf of our Central Committee delegation on the successful course of your congress. (prolonged strong applause)

It is with great satisfaction that I would now like to fulfill a pleasant assignment. At the proposal of the SED Central Committee Politburo and of the GDR Council of Ministers Presidium, Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, has awarded the DFD the Karl-Marx Order in recognition of its outstanding merits in political work among the masses, in developing the abilities and talents of women, in mobilizing them for the struggle for the GDR's comprehensive strengthening and for the preservation of peace, on the occasion of the 12th Federal Congress and 40th anniversary of this organization's founding.

I now present this high award to you and would like to most cordially congratulate you on this occasion. (prolonged, stormy applause; cheers)

PRICE INCREASE IN ENERGY, OIL PRODUCTS ANNOUNCED

LD250017 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] The producer's price of some energy products is to be raised starting tomorrow. Only the consumer's price of diesel will rise as a result; the other energy sources will not cost the population any more. The price of diesel for diesel-powered cars will increase by 40 fillers per liter, rising from 9 forints 30 fillers, to 9 forints 70 fillers. Public institutions will be affected by an 8-percent increase in the prices of heating oil, petroleum tar, kerosene, chemical industry gasoline, propane-butane gas, energetic natural gas, electric energy, and thermal energy. They will also be affected by a 4-percent rise in the producer price of diesel and heating oil.

ROMANIAN MINORITY DISCUSSES QUALITY OF EDUCATION

AU170530 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 14 Mar 87 p 3

[MTI report: "Federation of Romanian Nationals on Public Education"]

[Text] The Presidium of the Democratic Federation of Romanians in Hungary held a meeting on Friday [13 March]. At the meeting, held in the headquarters of the federation in Gyula, the public education of ethnic people in the cultural centers of Bekes and Hajdu-Bihar Counties was reviewed, as well as the situation and possibilities of Romanian teachers training in Hungary. Gyorgy Mark, general secretary of the federation, participated in the work of the presidium. At the meeting they found that the Bekescsaba youth center -- which hosts the national Pioneers' festival of national minorities and the similarly national meeting on folk music -- as the county's cultural center satisfies the public educational demands of national minorities. Positive results were reached at Mehkerek, where there are eight Romanian cultural clubs. Public education is similarly good and of a high quality in Ketegyhaza and Battonya. The cultural center in Gyula provides good help to Romanian federations in ethnic public education.

There are Romanians residing in 16 villages in the Bihar section of Hajdu-Bihar County, where public education has had significant success. This success includes the construction of a new block for the cultural center of Biharkeresztes as well as the reconstruction of the club library in Vancsod and that of the cultural center of Zsaka. According to plans, a new cultural center will be finished in a few years at Pocsaj, where the population is mostly Romanian.

MTI CITES 'LATEST DATA' ON AIDS VIRUS CASES

LD241023 Budapest MTI in English 0105 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 24 (MTI) -- According to the latest data 114 people infected with AIDS virus have been found in Hungary. Four patients have got ill, and one died. The total number of those infected is estimated to reach 6,000.

The groups exposed to the greatest peril (homosexuals and haemophiliacs) are subject to compulsory screening tests, and voluntary applicants are also screened. A permanent telephone service has been launched for those who wish to obtain information on the disease and preserve their incognito. An automatic telephone station providing information about the disease is soon to start operation in Budapest.

In Hungary, the tasks related to AIDS patients were regulated in September 1985. Foreign blood preparations were withdrawn as some of them were found infected with AIDS virus. Since July 1986 all blood taken from donors have also been examined.

In January 1986 the Hungarian health service received the first two pre-AIDS patients with appropriate laboratory testing equipment. The first patient with a fully developed AIDS disease emerged last December.

A department in a Budapest hospital has specialized in the treatment of those infected with the AIDS virus, and of pre-AIDS and AIDS patients. The department has medical preparations for preventing the proliferation of the AIDS virus. So far 12 pre-AIDS and AIDS patients have been treated at the department.

CAUSES OF SUICIDE RATE AMONG MILITARY EXAMINED

AU231516 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 19 Mar 87 p 3

[Interview with Colonel Karoly Molnar, chief editor of HONVEDSEGI SZEMLE [MILITARY REVIEW], and Lieutenant Colonel Lajos Kecse, head of the subdepartment of disciplinary analysis of the Political Main Directorate of the Hungarian People's Army, by Correspondent Istvan Illes: "Soldiers on Issue of Suicide -- Causes Are Rooted in Civilian Life" -- date and place not given; first paragraph is newspaper's introduction]

[Text] There are some 5,000 cases of suicide in Hungary annually, and almost three times as many people attempt suicide. What is the situation in the People's Army? Does the socialist army's organized and regulated life safeguard and protect the individual or does it increase his insecurity to a greater extent than the average in society? How do soldiers regard suicide? Col Karoly Molnar, a researcher on the subject, wrote an essay on this subject in the February issue of HONVEDSEGI SZEMLE. Our correspondent interviewed him and Lt Col Lajos Kecse on this subject.

[Illes] Several books, articles, and reviews recently dealt with the issue of suicide among soldiers. What conclusions have you drawn from all these?

[Molnar, Kecse] The frequency of conscripts' suicide at the beginning of their military service is generally equivalent to the suicide indicators among the same age group at their previous places and counties of residence. Conscripts bring with them the problem-solving patterns they learned from their families and at their places of residence, and in certain conflict situations they behave no differently while in the Army. The possibility of suicide or attempted suicide in a given Army unit therefore depends on the country from which the given unit receives its conscripts.

[Illes] At the beginning of the century, and in the 1920's and 1930's, the highest suicide rate in Hungary -- a figure that regularly exceeded 100 cases per 100,000 people -- was found among serving maids employed in towns and among soldiers, the most exposed strata of the population. What is the situation today?

[Molnar, Kecse] The proportion of suicides among civilians in Hungary -- a figure computed on the basis of suicide cases per 100,000 people -- has almost doubled in the period since the beginning of the sixties and the present time, and during the same period there has been an opposite trend among both career and conscript soldiers of the Hungarian People's Army. [paragraph continues]

According to statistics, the frequency indicator of suicide cases among conscripts in the 1961-65 period was still 40.9 per 100,000 people annually. This proportion had dropped to 37.7 by the following 5-year period, and it had dropped to 21.2 by the 1976-80 period. This trend also continued at the beginning of the eighties, and in 1986 the proportion was 15.3 per 100,000 people. In the case of career soliders, the proportion is only a few cases per 100,000 people higher.

[Illes] Does the proportion of suicide attempts show a similar decrease?

[Molnar, Kecse] There is a slight improvement in the number of suicide attempts by conscripts compared to the first half of the seventies, when these attempts peaked with 234.4 cases per 100,000 people. This figure has dropped to 160-170 cases per 100,000 people in the last decade. This proprotion cannot be compared with that of the civilian population because the Central Statistical Office does not provide such data according to age groups and sex. The fact that suicide is attempted by four times as many conscripts from the capital as from the provinces -- particularly from the Alfold counties where the suicide proportion is even higher -- gives food for thought.

[Illes] Is there an explanation for this phenomenon?

[Molnar, Kecse] It would be worthless to hide the fact that, as long as the institution of compulsory military service exists, there will be people who will try to shirk it in on way or another. Everyone makes use of the means at his disposal. There are people who want to gain dishonest advantages by deliberately hurting themselves, that is, by faking a suicide attempt, or by means of favoritism and corruption; all this is for lack of another or better way of avoiding military service. I think it would be possible to "require" from a conscript the service time lost resulting from an attempted suicide as well as the expenses involved with the ensuing medical care.

[Illes] There are occasional rumors of soldiers "driven to suicide". Are these rumors founded?

[Molnar, Kecse] These rumors lack any foundation whatsoever. Only in one or two cases in the past decade has it emerged that the immediate surroundings were responsible. However, we know of cases when -- especially following the demobilization of the soldier who first attempted suicide -- these cases spread like an epidemic in some garrisons and units.

[Illes] It is common knowledge that the Army reflects society; nevertheless, the suicide indicators are much better in this area. How can you explain this?

[Molnar, Kecse] This is due to preventive activity whose conditions are -- at least partly -- particular. A favorable factor is that both conscript and career soldiers are healthier than society's average from a physical, spiritual, neurological, and psychological viewpoint. The soliders are classifed and selected. The sick and people who lead an unbalanced way of life -- for example, professional alcoholics -- are strictly rejected from the Army. However, solidarity, community life, and support given to the individual in difficult living conditions -- factors that are generally stronger and more organized under military supervision than elsewhere -- try to avoid this. The chances for being isolated are smaller, too.

[Illes] Are there also factors in the military that inrease suicidal tendencies?

[Molnar, Kecse] Of course there are such factors, such as an inadequate knowledge of the conscript's private and social conditions and particularities, and the conflicts that accompany an adjustment to unusual surroundings. This also shows the reason why more than half the suicide cases and attempted suicides among conscripts occur during the initial period of their service.

[Illes] I believe it is difficult to prevent a soldier who is undergoing a crisis from receiving a firearm.

[Molnar, Kecse] In spite of a very careful watch on weapons and ammunition, it happens -- in almost one-quarter of all cases -- that individually issued weapons are used for self-destruction. The less dangerous drugs and the razor blade, which generally do not even cause a serious injury, have become characteristic weapons in suicide attempts; last year, for example, "only" two conscripts died as a result of a suicide attempt involving these methods. In the majority of the cases, the desire to get discharged and avoid military service or blackmail by someone -- love partner, parent, or superiors -- simple hysterics, or total lack of self-discipline and standards of social behavior are behind the suicide attempts.

[Illes] How does the Army judge suicide cases?

[Molnar, Kecse] Since the social conditions for solving personal problems exist or can be created, we regard suicides as cowardly and irresponsible acts. Suicides are condemned and rejected, not only by the Army's leadership, but also by military public opinion. If we refuse to act in this way and do not take a stand against it, suicide will become a morally accepted means of solving problems, and this might lead to an increase in its frequency. Our position, however, does not contradict our need to assist the relatives of suicide cases carefully, thoroughly, and patiently.

[Illes] What lessons can be drawn from the different trends in suicide cases among the civilian population and military personnel?

[Molnar, Kecse] One of the lessons is that -- as the favorable trend in the army also shows -- we cannot regard the high proportion of suicide cases as an unavoidable national stroke of fate. Suicide can be prevented. The other lesson is that, as long as there is no genuine decrease in suicide cases among civilians, the army also has to reckon with the danger of a spread of suicide attempts. This is understandable because the army is an integral part of society and, in spite of the close character of the army, it is still impossible to completely isolate soldiers from the various effects of the outside world. Subsequently we should further develop the intensity and professionalism of the preventive activity. The commanders and political staff should be made even more aware of the methods and concrete tasks of preventing such cases and they should be able to use these methods individually in critical situations.

ANNIVERSARY OF REPUBLIC OF COUNCILS CELEBRATED

LD212055 Budapest MTI in English 1924 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 21 (MTI) -- The 68th anniversary of the formation of the Republic of Councils in Hungary was celebrated nation-wide Saturday [21 March]. At the central celebration where Csaba Hamori, member of the HSWP Political Committee and first secretary of the Communist Youth Union of Hungary (KISZ), and Janos Berecz, secretary of the HSWP CC, was addressed by Peter Emod, secretary of KISZ CC. [sentence as received]

He spoke with appreciation of the historical importance of the Republic of the Councils and stated: "We also live in an age which is a turning point in history. In the past forty years socialism has become a world-wide system and now it is facing a historical challenge. Our future is at stake. The road of development has never been exempt from contradictions -- there may be scars from the fight against conservatism, red tape, and inaction. We must first be prepared to take the strain of change and then the advantages of a more efficiently and democratically organized society will take shape. There is no alternative, if we mean serious changes in our lot. We support the policy of our party, because by giving recognition based on performance, speeding up technological development, and putting emphasis on public and democratic decision-making, it serves a change for the better. An external factor of extraordinary importance contributing to the success of the implementation of this programme is the change taking place under the leadership of the CPSU in the Soviet Union.

After the speech many participants laid wreaths at the base of the memorial statue of the Republic of Councils. Janos Berecz laid a wreath on behalf of the HSWP CC and Csaba Hamori on behalf of the communist youth organization.

VARKONYI LEAVES FOR PACT MEETING IN MOSCOW

LD231552 Budapest MTI in English 1515 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 23 (MTI) -- Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi left for Moscow Monday. He is to attend the session of foreign ministers of the Warsaw Treaty member states.

PAL TO ATTEND MEXICAN SOCIALIST PARTY CONGRESS

LD221744 Budapest MTI in English 1716 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 22 (MTI) -- Headed by Lenard Pal, secretary of the HSWP CC, a party delegation left for Mexico Sunday. The delegation is to take part in the 3rd congress of the United Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM).

JOINT CYPRUS TRADE TALKS HELD; PROTOCOL SIGNED

LD232338 Budapest MTI in English 1835 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 23 (MTI) -- The 4th session of the Hungary-Cyprus Economic Cooperation Joint Committee, held between March 19 and 23 in Budapest, ended Monday with the signing of a protocol.

The joint committee examined the development of bilateral trade and economic relations, and was of the view that these showed dynamic development in 1986. Industrial and agricultural cooperation, the exchange of experts, licence relations and joint ventures, including cooperation on third markets, are to figure more prominently in the future.

Hungarian companies are to continue the traditional deliveries of steel, chemical agents, synthetic leather, textile and meat. They are to participate in tenders in Cyprus in new areas as, for example, the building of infrastructure, the production of water management installations, and the sales of machines and delivery means. Last year, Hungarian imports from Cyprus expanded and included wine, grape-juice, lemons, and aircraft fuel. Both sides see further opportunities to develop bilateral goods turnover.

In 1966, the Hungarian exhibit of products in Cyprus and the "week of products from Cyprus" held in Hungary provided further impetus to cooperation between companies of the two countries. Relations between the chambers of the countries are also developing well.

The Hungarian delegation was led by Tibor Antalpeter, department head of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Cyprus delegation by Iakovos Aristidhou, chief director of the Cyprus Planning Office. The leader of the Cyprus delegation met Istvan Torok, state secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, and Miklas Villanyi, state secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Iakovos Aristidhou also held talks in the National Planning Office.

ETHIOPIAN TRADE TALKS END WITH PROTOCOL SIGNING

LD191750 Budapest MTI in English 1720 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 19 (MTI) -- The second session of the Hungarian-Ethiopian intergovernmental economics, and technological-scientific cooperation and trade committee [as received] ended in Budapest Thursday with the signing of a protocol. The protocol was initialed by Lajos Czinege, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Addis Tedla, vice president of the National Council of Ethiopian Central Planning, member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia, co-chairman of the committee.

The two sides concluded that since the first session there had been significant advances in all areas of cooperation. They agreed to further reinforce cooperation, and set down the most important jobs of the time to come. On that basis, Hungary is to assist the Ethiopian side principally in viticulture and onology and in pig-keeping, as well as in the development of light industry, the pharmaceutical industry and the food industry. A trade protocol was also signed to promote turnover between the two countries.

Addis Tedla was received by Georgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers. Laszlo Marothy, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, president of the National Planning Office also held talks with the guest.

Addis Tedla and the delegation he headed left Hungary Thursday.

OFFICIALS GREET PAKISTANIS ON NATIONAL DAY

LD221741 Budapest MTI in English 1711 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 22 (MTI) -- Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, sent Ziaul Haq, head of state, and Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent Mohammad Khan Junejo, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on the occasion of that country's national day, a telegram of greetings.

LAZAR GREETS LIBYAN COUNTERPART ON ELECTION

AU171125 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 12 Mar 87 p 8

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Premier Gyorgy Lazar sent a greetings telegram to 'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir on the occasion of this election as general secretary of the General People's Committee of Libya.

VARKONYI, GDR'S FISCHER EXCHANGE GREETINGS

LD231812 Budapest MTI in English 1709 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 23 (MTI) -- On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Treaty between the Hungarian People's Republic and the German Democratic Republic, Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi has sent a greeting telegram to Oskar Fischer, foreign minister of the German Democratic Republic. The GDR foreign minister has also cabled his good wishes to his Hungarian counterpart.

HAMORI ADDRESSES KISZ ANNIVERSARY MEETING

LD212058 Budapest MTI in English 1927 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Budapest, March 21 (MTI) -- The 30th anniversary of the Communist Youth Union of Hungary (KISZ) opening was celebrated nation-wide with political rallies, varied events and meetings.

The central and the Budapest committee of KISZ unveiled a plaque on the site of forming the union 30 years ago. Present at the celebration were Csaba Hamori, member of the HSWP Political Committee and first secretary of KISZ, and Janos Berecz, secretary of HSWP CC.

The series of commemorations continued at the Museum of the Hungarian Working Class Movement where an exhibition of documents and photographs of the history of the organization is being held.

Csaba Hamori welcomed the founding member of the Youth Unions, former leaders and Karoly Nemeth, deputy general secretary of the HSWP and he recalled the most important events of the past 30 years. Finally, he said that young people can not be idle observers of the changes taking place. Young people are expected to have the energy and desire for a creative and ambitious life, characteristic of youth of any era, and the meeting of targets requires nationwide cooperation.

BRIEFS

TRADE TALKS WITH THAILAND -- At the invitation of Foreign Trade Minister Peter Veress, a Thai trade delegation led by Thai Trade Minister Montri Pongpanich paid a visit to Budapest 7-9 March. During the negotiations the two sides discussed questions related to the expansion of bilateral commercial relations. The Thai minister met Deputy Premier Jozsef Marjai and Tamas Beck, chairman of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce. The official was also accompanied by several Thai businessmen, who held discussions with Hungarian enterprise managers. [Text] [Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 10 Mar 87 p 6 AU]

NATIONAL BANK PRESIDENT DISCUSSES DEBT ISSUE

LD240935 Warsaw PAP in English 2215 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Warsaw, March 23 -- Polish Press Agency PAP asked president of the National Bank of Poland NBP [Wladyslaw Baka] to answer questions dealing with repercussions of the debt on the state of Polish economy and prospects of solving this problem.

Magnitude of Poland's Debt Abroad [subhead]

According to data for the end of 1986, the Polish indebtedness to socialist countries was about 6.5 billion transfer roubles (1 transfer rouble equals 115 Polish zlotys), while to capitalist countries -- 33.5 billion U.S. dollars (1 dollar equals 240 zlotys). Approximately, the debt to capitalist countries amounted to some 40 percent of the Polish national income, or five-times the sum of foreign currency earnings generated by exports to capitalist countries. The scale of the debt is, then, very big.

How Did It Happen [subhead]

The whole thing began in the early 1970s. Indebtedness to capitalist countries went dramatically up from one billion dollars in 1971 to 8.4 billion in 1975, and to 25.5 billion in 1981. During the years 1971-1985 Poland obtained Western credits altogether worth 46.9 billion dollars, of which 44.4 billion dollars in the period 1971-1981. Although Poland paid back its creditors some 40 billion dollars as capital repayment and interest between 1971 and the end of 1985, the level of indebtedness remains very big.

Such is, unfortunately, the merciless logic of compound interest. At present, despite great efforts and allocating about two billion dollars each year for debt servicing, the indebtedness continuously grows because the sums of interest are bigger than two billion dollars.

What Were the Credits Used For [subhead]

Only part of the credits was used properly, that is, went for development. A large portion was simply "eaten away." Estimates say that one third of all the credits (till 1981) went to pay for investment imports, one third to imports of raw and other materials used in a large part to produce consumer goods, and one third for financing the imports of grains, fodders and other goods for consumption. Today we have to suffer the consequences of this wrong fashion in which the credits were used. I mean not only "eating away" but also some unwise purchases of machinery and equipment which have never started working.

Debt Repayment Affects Poland's Consumption Level [subhead]

The relation is obvious and calculation simple. Here is the relevant calculation: Earnings from exports in 1986 reached 6,226 million dollars, while spending on imports -- 5,108 million dollars, which means that Poland sent abroad goods worth 1,118 million dollars more than she imported home.

Had we not been obliged to service the debt, we could have channelled this sum to, for instance, home market supplies.

This means that the supply of market goods would then go up by some 260 billion zlotys (i.e. some four percent) in the form of goods in demand, usually representing a high standard. This would permit the liquidation of the inflation gap (which stood at about 170 billion zlotys in 1986) and an additional increase in wages of some 2.4 percent (in real terms). The same could be demonstrated on the example of supplies for the light, electronic, chemical, fertilizer, and other industries.

Talks at IMF and World Bank [subhead]

I had an opportunity in Washington to present the Polish viewpoint on the matter which is based on two principles: first, Poland declares its willingness to live up to its obligations, and it assesses that this goal will be well-served by further reorientation in the direction of exports, as well as a general upgrading of economic efficiency. Second, the problem of Polish debt can only be solved in a longer period of time on the grounds of close cooperation with the creditor countries and creation of conditions for influx of new, long-term credits allowing a speedup in the development of export-oriented production. Such an approach to the question has met with understanding in the IMF and the World Bank. But we can count on the cooperation of our foreign partners insofar as we start and successfully implement a programme of curing the system of functioning of our economy, increasing its efficiency, and increasing the exports suplus, Professor Baka said.

WOJCIK, IRAQI MINISTER SIGN COOPERATION PROTOCOL

JN221305 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 Mar

[Text] The ninth session of the mixed Polish-Iraqi committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation was held in Warsaw on 20 and 21 March. The Iraqi side was headed by Minister of Heavy Industry Subhi Yasin Khudayr at-Samarra'i; the Polish side was headed by Minister of Foreign trade Andrzej Wojcik. The promotion and spheres of bilateral economic and trade cooperation were assessed during the session. The two sides agreed on the need to lay the ground for intensifying cooperation in the fields of energy, construction, irrigation, light and chemical industry, and environment preservation.

The two sides discussed issues to prepare for concluding an agreement on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation and organizing the trade and economic ties between Iraq and Poland until 1990. The two sides signed a protocol on the results of the session.

POLITBURO REVIEWS ECONOMIC REFORM, RESTRUCTURING

LD242259 Warsaw PAP in English 2153 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Warsaw, March 24 -- Acquainting itself with the assumptions of the second stage of the economic reform, the PUWP CC Political Bureau reviewed today the state of work aiming at sweeping changes in the national economy and at strengthening the money-market balance.

The Political Bureau discussed the mode and progress of the review of organizational structures in the economy and the state. It adopted postulates and recommended that the party-government commission speed up and radicalize its work. It pointed to the necessity of reduced expenditure connected with the functioning of ministers, institutions and offices. It also discussed pro-improvement and pro-thriftiness lines in party structures.

The bureau also tackled issues of the personnel policy and pointed to the shortcomings and especially unsatisfactory dynamcis in promoting young, talented and innovation-oriented employees were pointed out.

The Political Bureau advised that social ills, particularly alcoholism, should be combatted in a more rigorous manner.

EPISCOPATES HOLD CONFERENCE, VIEW POPE'S VISIT

AU171116 Warsaw SLOWO POWSZECHNE in Polish 13-15 Mar 87 pp 1, 6

["Communique on the 219th Plenary Conference of the Polish Episcopate" issued in Warsaw on 11 March]

[Excerpts] The 219th plenary conference of the Polish Episcopate was held in Warsaw on 10 and 11 March 1987. Jozef Cardinal Glemp, the primate of Poland, was in the chair. [passage omitted]

The Episcopate noted that the holy father will come to Poland on his third pilgrimage to participate in the Second All-Poland Eucharistic Congress. He will open the congress in Warsaw on 8 June, which is the day of the Holy Mother of the Catholic Church, and will end it by a high mass and a procession along Warsaw streets on 14 June. The Holy Father will also participate in the congress celebrations in Lublin, Tarnow, Krakow, Szczecin, Gdansk, Gdynia, Czestochowa, Jasna Gorba, and Lodz. John Paul II will undertake his visit for all Poland, and that is why all townships, villages, dioceses, and parishes should make the necessary efforts to ensure he receives a worthy welcome, love, and esteem as the visible head of the Catholic Church. This means that the Poles holding differing world outlooks and political views should overcome their differences, that all kinds of wrongdoing should be eliminated, and that reaction should be shown to all kinds of activities that violate or restrict human rights. The holy father's visit to Poland should consolidate the conviction that the Poles are able to unite for the sake of building their common home in justice, love, and peace. [passage omitted]

The conference elected delegates for the bishops' synod to be held in Rome in the fall to deliberate about the role of laity in the Catholic Church and the world.

The delegation consists of Jozef Cardinal Glemp, the primate of Poland; Franciszek Cardinal Macharski, the Krakow metropolitan; Kielce Bishop Stanislaw Szymecki; and Gorzow Bishop Jozef Michalik. [passage omitted]

WFTU BUREAU SESSION TO OPEN IN WARSAW 27 MAR

LD042236 Warsaw PAP in English 1804 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Warsaw, March 4 -- The Bureau of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) is going to hold its 37th session here this March 27-29. This will be the first meeting of the body in the wake of the 11th World Trade Union Congress in Berlin and after the Congress of Polish Reborn Trade Unions.

Warsaw will host 100 trade unionists from all over the world: Representatives of trade union organizations from 37 countries affiliated to the WFTU Bureau and four international trade union branch federations.

As its main objective, the meeting -- basing on Berlin resolutions -- will map out a programme of WFTU activity till 1990, or till the next world congress. The bureau will also discuss the schedule for this year's work and the federation's financial affairs.

The fact that Warsaw has been chosen as the venue of the bureau's debate -- for the first time in the history of the federation -- has been a sign of appreciation for the activity of the Polish trade union movement.

The significance of the Warsaw debate stems from the very moment at which it will be held: The coming weeks will see a series of meetings and congresses of trade unions in various countries. The 18th Soviet Trade Unions Congress has ended of late. Polish unionists who participated in that assembly held talks with 70 delegations from different countries including representatives of the majority of West-European trade union organizations.

The session in Warsaw will provide an opportunity for foreign guests to meet with Polish trade unionists at work establishments and within nationwide trade union organizations.

CEAUSESCU CHAIRS RCP CC PLENUM; AGENDA ADOPTED

AU241716 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1656 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES, 24/3/87 -- The Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party met in plenum on March 24 under the chairmanship of Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party.

Upon the proposal of the CC of the RCP's Executive Political Committee, the plenary meeting unanimously adopted the following agenda:

1. - Report on the fulfillment of the single national plan for Romania's economic and social development in the first quarter of 1987, the measures for the fulfillment of the plan for the second quarter and for the whole year, as well as for proper course of the spring agricultural operations.

2. - Report on the party membership, composition and organizational structure on December 31, 1986 and the political-organizational activity carried on by party bodies and organizations for the implementation of the party decisions and directives.

3. - Report on the activity carried out by party and state bodies, and mass organizations in 1986 for the implementation of the party cadre policy.

4. - Report on the activity of solving the working people's proposals, intimations, complaints and applications in 1986.

5. - Report on the party and state international activity in 1986 and the main foreign policy objectives for 1987.

6. - Organizational questions.

Invited to attend the plenary meeting are cadres of the party and state apparatus that are not members of the CC of the RCP.

The plenary meeting continues.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION ELIMINATION DAY MARKED

AU211749 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1720 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 21/03/1987 -- A festive meeting was organized in Bucharest on Saturday, March 21, under the aegis of the Romanian Association for the United Nations (ANUROM) and other Romanian organizations to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Gheorghe Chivulescu, minister of justice, took the floor to highlight that in the spirit of its consistent policy of miltant solidarity with the peoples fighting against foreign domination, for freedom and independence, Romania resolutely declares and works for the definite abolition of colonialism and neocolonialism under all its forms, of the apartheid and racil discrimination policy, for the achievement of the rights of the majority population in South Africa to freedom, equality, and social progress, for Namibia's undelayed access to independence, firmly rejects the policy of strength and aggression and supports the African countries' will to develop freely and independently without any outside interference.

Romania, the speaker went on, has constantly paid great attention to developing its friendly and cooperative links with the African countries.

Consistently backing the just fight of the majority population in South Africa for the abolition of apartheid, for its right to free and dignified existence, the Romanian people grants an active material and moral support to the fight of the African National Congress, of SWAPO [South African People's Organization], of other liberation movements in Southern Africa to liquidate the racist system, for the cause of liberty and progress.

The Romanian People's feelings of solidarity and support materialized in the joint documents Romania signed with African countries and were reiterated during the numerous meetings President Nicolae Ceausescu had with leaders of liberation movements on the African continent.

At the U.N., within other international forums, as a party to the convention on the suppression and punishment of the crime of apartheid and to the convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, the speaker went on, Romania spoke and speaks for the implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations against apartheid, for its abolition, for the liquidation of the colonialist vestiges and of racial domination from the African continent.

CEAUSESCU RECEIVES FRG AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS

AU231905 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1601 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES, March 23, 1987 -- President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania received on Monday, March 23, Helmut Matthias, who presented his credentials as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to Romania.

Handing over the credentials, Ambassador Helmut Matthias conveyed to President Nicolae Ceausescu best wishes of good health and happiness, of prosperity for the Romanian people, from Richard von Weizsaecker, president of the Federal Republic of Germany, from Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, from that country's people.

The address presented by the ambassador emphasizes the upward course of the bilateral relations, the wish of Federal Germany to further expand these relations. Reviewing a string of current international issues, the address stresses the steady character of the foreign policy promoted by Romania for the observance of all states' independence and equal rights, for the achievement of disarmament and the establishment of a climate of peace, understanding and broad collaboration in Europe and the world over.

Receiving the credentials, President Nicolae Ceausescu conveyed to the president of the Federal Republic of Germany and to the federal chancellor wishes of good health and happiness, of progress and prosperity for that country's president.

The address of reply of President Nicolae Ceausescu emphasizes the good relations existing between Romania and Federal Germany, assessing that every condition exists for the further development of the collaboration between the two countries, especially for the expansion and amplification of the economic and technical-scientific cooperaiton, for augmenting the commercial exchanges and for expanding the cooperation in third markets.

Under the current international circumstances, the address stresses, the fundamental problem is the halting of the arms race and the passage to concrete measures of disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament, the securing of peace in the world. Highlighted is also the necessity to do everything possible so as to reach the soonest an accord on the medium-range missiles in Europe -- as a first step toward the elimination of all nuclear weapons -- for the cessation of the nuclear tests and the halting of the space militarization. Highlighting that Romania campaigned and campaigns actively for the promotion of cooperation and security in Europe, for the establishment in this continent of new relations, of confidence and collaboration among all nations, the address expresses the country's determination to contribute to the full to the conclusion of the Vienna meeting with good results and to its leading to new steps toward disarmament, economic, technological, scientific, cultural and other kinds of cooperation.

CEAUSESCU RECEIVES PORTUGUESE PARTY LEADER

AU242020 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1848 GMT 24 Mar 87

["Nicolae Ceausescu Receives Secretary-General of PSD of Portugal" -- AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 24-03-1987 -- Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP, received on March 24, Manuel Dias Loureira, secretary-general of the Social Democratic Party [PSD], who is paying a visit to Romania as guest of the CC of the RCP.

The guest conveyed Nicolae Ceausescu a warm salute, wishes of good health and happiness from the leader of the PSD of Portugal, prime minister of the Portuguese government, Anibal Cavaco Silva.

Nicolae Ceausescu conveyed the leader of the PSD of Portugal, Portuguese prime minister, a warm salute and best wishes.

During the talk the relations of friendship and collaboration between the RCP and the PSD of Portugal were evoked and the wish was expressed to take action for the development of the relations between the two parties, between Romania and Portugal, to the benefit of both countries, of the cause of international peace and understanding.

The exchange of views on problems of the world political life disclosed the two parties' concern over the deterioration of the international situation. It was shown that under these conditions, progressive and democratic forces everywhere should more than ever before step up their efforts to halt the dangerous course of events toward confrontation and war, for the achievement of disarmament, for firmly basing the interstate relations on the principles of fully equality of rights, national sovereignty and independence, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual advantage.

In this frame, Nicolae Ceausescu stressed the special role and responsibilities of Europe, of all European states in the settlement of the complex issues of international life.

The RCP general secretary highlighted the necessity that all countries should energetically act for concrete accords to be reached, meant to help curtailing the nuclear weapons and then liquidating them. In that context, the recent proposals of the Soviet Union regarding the withdrawal of the medium-range missiles from Europe were appreciated.

During the talk Nicolae Ceausescu stressed that a particular role of the accomplishment of mankind's major desiderata was played by the strengthening of the collaboration and cooperation among the Communist, Socialist, Social-Democratic Parties, among all progressive and democratic forces in the struggle for peace, democracy, independence and social progress of all states.

They also reiterated the need for action toward the peaceful, negotiated settlement of all states of conflict and disputed issues among states, for the eradication of underdevelopment and the securing of all developing countries' economic progress and prosperity.

STOIAN, NICU CEAUSESCU MEET SFRY YOUTH DELEGATION

AU172040 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1902 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 17/3/1987 -- On Tuesday, March 17, the delegation led by Hąsim Redzepi, president of the Presidium of the Conference of the League of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia, now on an exchange-of-experience visit to Romania at the invitation of the CC of the Union of Communist Youth, were received by Ion Stoian, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP.

Stress was laid on the occasion on the fine links of friendship and cooperation between the Romanian and Yugoslav youth that are developing on multiple planes in the spirit of the traditional relations between the two parties, countries, and peoples, on the basis of the talks held and understandings covenanted at the highest level, between RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu and the party and state leaders of the SFR of Yugoslavia.

The same day the delegation of the League of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia met with Nicu Ceausescu, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Union of Communist Youth.

During the interview, information and experience were exchanged at length on the concerns of the two youth organizations, on the young generation's active participation in the socioeconomic development process.

Current aspects of the international youth and student movement were also approached with emphasis on the mutual wish to further work for the achievement and strengthening of the unity of the progressive and democratic young generation, for the continuous enhancement of its contribution, alongside the peoples, the broad progressive forces, to the debate and appropriate settlement of the major problems of the present-day world.

DEFENSE MINISTER SENDS CABLE TO MPR COUNTERPART

AU200913 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 18 Mar 87 p 5

[Text] Vasile Milea, minister of national defense of the SR of Romania, has sent a congratulatory cable to Colonel General Jamsranghiyn Yondon, minster of defnese of the Mongolian People's Republic, on the 66th anniversary of the creation of Mongolian People's Army.

On this occasion, Togoochiyn Genden, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the MPR in Bucahrest, met with military men in a unit of our Army to whom he spoke about the significance of the celebrated event.

CEAUSESCU TOASTS NEPAL KING AT DINNER 16 MAR

AU191409 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 17 Mar 87 p 3

["President Nicolae Ceausescu's Toast" at official dinner given in his honor by the King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal in Katmandu on 16 March]

[Text] Your Majesty, ladies and gentlemen: On my and my wife's behalf, I want to express warm thanks for the invitation to visit your country and for the hospitable welcome given us. On this occasion, too, I take particular pleasure in extending cordial greetings and best wishes to you and to all friendly Nepalese people.

It gives us great pleasure to visit Nepal and to become acquainted with the life and concerns of your diligent people, and with their efforts on the road to independent socioeconomic development.

We believe that Romania and Nepal, although they are located a great distance apart, have the possibility to develop lasting economic, scientific-technical, cultural, relations and to cooperate actively in the international arena to ensure the assertion of a policy of peace and understanding among nations. We wish that the visit we are paying to your country, the talks and understandings that will be reached, will give a vigorous impetus to our joint efforts in this direction. We believe that developing cooperation between Romania and Nepal on the basis of the principles of full equality of rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs, and mutual advantage, is fully in keeping with the interests of progress and the free development of our two countries, serving the cause of peace in the world.

Acting for the implementation of its plans and development programs, Romania is paying particular attention to the international situation. We promote a firm policy of peace, independence, and broad international cooperation, believing that only in conditions of peace will the Romanian people -- as in fact all peoples in the world -- be able to successfully implement their targets of socialist construction.

Under the current international circumstances, there is no more important problem for the whole of mankind than disarmament and the elimination of the danger of a new world war, a war which would inevitably turn into a nuclear catastrophe destroying life and the whole civilization on earth! It is necessary for all peoples to unite their efforts and to cooperate as closely as possible to halt this dangerous trend of events, and to safeguard the supreme right of people and nations to peace, life, and dignified and independent development!

Romania firmly speaks out and struggles for the stage by stage elimination of all nuclear weapons and a substantial reduction of conventional weapons by the end of this century. Everything must be done immediately, that is this year, to conclude an accord on the elimination of intermediate-range missiles in Europe; this is the first step to freeing the continent from all nuclear weapons and to proceeding to the total elimination of nuclear arsenals throughout the world.

At the same time, all conventional weapons, troops, and military expenditures must be firmly and substantially reduced. Within the framework of a national referendum, our country decided to proceed to a unilateral 5-percent cut in weapons, troops, and military expenditures. We believe that such a measure, if followed by other states, would open up further prospects for concrete disarmament actions, and for the utilization of the tremendous amounts now spent for armaments to solve the socioeconomic problems in each country, especially to support the efforts for progress made by the developing countries.

We firmly struggle to turn the Balkans -- an area in which our country is located -- into a zone of peace and cooperation, without nuclear and chemical weapons, and without foreign military bases. We support the creation of such zones in the north and center of Europe and on other continents. Within this framework, I want to stress that Romania values and supports His Majesty's proposal regarding declaring Nepal a zone of peace.

We consistently struggle to rule out the use or threat of force in international relations and to solve all conflicts and disputes in various parts of the world by peaceful negotiations.

Facts show that one of the most serious problems of our day, which must be urgently resolved, is the elimination of underdevelopment and the wide gaps between rich and poor countries, gaps which are constantly widening because of the world economic crisis and inequitable relations in the international arena in general.

It is necessary to organize an international conference within the United Nations which should be attended by both developing and developed countries in order to come to an appropriate understanding on all problems regarding the elimination of underdevelopment -- including the foreign debts of the developing countries -- and to establish a new economic order.

A lasting and just solution to all great international issues requires the active participation, on an equal footing, of all states, primarily the small and medium-sized countries, the developing and nonaligned countries, which form the great majority of the world and are directly interested in a policy of independence, cooperation, and peace.

With great satisfaction I would like to mention the active cooperation between Romania and Nepal in the international arena, too, and to express the conviction that this cooperation will develop even more in the future.

At this time, I would like to express thanks for the hospitable welcome we were given. I also want to express warm thanks to the residents of your capital for the particularly friendly reception they have given us.

On behalf of the residents of our capital and on behalf of all Romanian people, I would like to convey best wishes for progress, prosperity, and peace to the people of Kathmandu and to the whole people of friendly Nepal.

Trusting that the visit we are paying to Nepal will go down as a significant contribution to the development of relations of friendship and cooperation between our countries and peoples, I want to toast:

-- The good health of Your Majesty and the queen;

-- The progress and prosperity of the friendly Nepalese people;

-- Friendship and cooperation between Romania and Nepal;

-- Peace and understanding throughout the world; and

-- The good health of all of you! (loud applause)

MIKULIC ATTENDS ECONOMIC CHAMBER MEETING

AU241537 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Prices are increasing without restraint, production is falling, while spending is growing. Inflation is approaching three-digit figures, while exports continue to fall. These problems were discussed today at a session of the executive board of the Yugoslav Chamber of Yugoslavia. The session was addressed by Branko Mikulic, FEC president. Here is a report by Milan Nedic and Slavisa Stojkovic:

The February intervention laws, which were not enthusiastically received in all communities, are just a new respite, and an attempt by the federal government to put the economy on a more sound basis. The reason for such an energetic reaction by the FEC was that industrial production in January was 2 percent below that in the same period last year, and communal spending funds increased 80 percent. A further fall in exports was registered, and as regards prrices, the report that the Federal Price Institute received 2,350 requests for price increases between 1 January and 10 March is indicative of the high inflation. Some producers requested that the prices of their goods be increased by a percentage of 200, 300, or even more.

At an expanded session of the Executive Board of the Yugoslav Chamber of Economy, it was not expected that it would be unanimously recognized that the situation was difficult and complicated, or that the proposed measures and conclusions would be confirmed by a nod of heads. As Radoljub Micic, president of the Crvena Zastava managing board, wittily remarked, one can easily fall asleep with too much nodding of one's head, and there is no time to sleep now.

Representatives of large collectives and economic chambers proposed a number of interesting suggestions today. It was proposed, for instance, that associations of businessmen should be consulted about any increases of more than 30 percent, that measures should be prepared to regulate in detail the changes in the economic system, and that associated labor organizations from the developed and underdeveloped regions should build better ties. The chambers of economy should increase their influence on regulations, changes which would make various forms of financial misbehavior [nedisciplina] unprofitable by implementing economic penalties.

It is false, it was said in the discussions, to state that the intervention laws caused economic problems. The way to solve our economic problems lies in increasing production and economic relations with foreign countries, in financial consolidation, and in the realization of joint export programs.

Addressing the businessmen, Branko Mikulic, FEC president, stressed that everybody is now theoretically in favor of the Long-Term Economic Stabilization Program, commodity production, and exports, but in practice the opposite is most frequently the case. This is because we find it difficult to abandon the illusion that we are an affluent society. This illusion was created by our earlier excessive foreign borrowing, and now the illusion continues because less is being set aside for accumulation and reproduction.

The intervention laws were introduced because, according to Branko Mikulic, there was no other way to reduce spending and bridle the price increases. He said that these measures cannot be fair for everybody, but that this will be corrected. However, it is our place to say tha these measures rapidly increase administration and reduce self-management. The correct question, the FEC president said, is to ask what sort of self-management prospects are attainable if spending increases 10 times as quickly as productivity. [passage omitted]

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE DISCUSSES INTERVENTION LAW

AU241304 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1145 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Gustav Chalupa report from Belgrade]

[Text] Tensions have eased slightly on the wage front in Yugoslavia. The Belgrade government is apparently willing to make concessions and announced that it wants to reduce the most unfavorable effects of the wage freeze, which, as is known, caused an enormous wave of strikes.

Enterprises that have pursued a sensible wage policy and whose wage payments are covered by production output are to be excepted from the wage freeze. This will benefit a number of heavy industry enterprises and ship-building companies in Croatia, where the strikes originally started. The workers had actually been punished for their industrious work by the intervention laws.

Furthermore, seasonal workers are also to be excepted from the wage freeze. This does not include migrant agricultural workers but instead the tens of thousands of people working in tourism. Only now has it been realized in the Palace of the Federation in New Belgrade, the seat of the Yugoslav Government, that the intervention laws are threatening the forthcoming tourist season, which is expected to yield $2 billion. Waiters, cooks, receptionists, maids, and footboys can now hope to receive higher wages.

Workers and representatives of the economy are adopting a cautious posture toward the government's concessions. The government has met with criticism from an unexpected quarter: the Belgrade SFRY assembly. Deputies have complained that the government has blamed parliament for the riots by saying that the intervention law, after all, was passed by parliament. We were tricked, because we voted for a law on wages that depends on labor productivity; only now it is becoming obvious that in Yugoslavia there is no uniform yardstick for measuring labor productivity, Serbian Deputy (Rastko Budjevic) protested, while a Croatian deputy revealed that the deputies could hardly read the text of the intervention law because it had been pushed through at top speed.

During the turbulent debate in the Belgrade parliament the few ministers on the government bench had to accept without objection the accusation of not having informed business and the working people in time about the intervention law, which, as is known, is really a wage freeze. The official number of 70 strikes announced by the government was countered by the deputies with a claim of 168 strikes. It was only due to the fact that in some republics, such as Slovenia, the wage intervention law has been practically ignored that the strike wave has spread farther.

Law Faces Amendment

LD241357 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1253 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Belgrade, March 24 (TANJUG) -- The recently adopted interventionist law limiting earnings in the public sector must be amended in order to be implemented more effectively, the Yugoslav Federal Assembly's Committee for Socio-Economic Relations considers.

This month's application of the law to the February earnings caused quite a reaction throughout Yugoslavia, as well as 168 work stoppages in which over 20,000 workers took part. The workers demanded a revision of the law, because its implementation had resulted in 10 to 60 percent lower personal incomes, dependent on the kind of activity of the work organizations involved.

The interventionist law on earnings, enacted by the Assembly of Yugoslavia on February 27, requires the adjustment of workers' monthly earnings to the productivity levels achieved that month.

The law, however, directly affects the work organizations with a seasonal operation profile, with a months-long production cycle and some others.

The Assembly Committee for Socio-Economic Relations proposed that the law be amended as soon as possible to eliminate the irregularities affecting the work organizations in question.

Members of both the committee and the federal government consider it essential to persist in consistent implementation of the substance and objectives of the interventionist law pegging incomes to productivity.

The interventionist law will probably be amended at the next meeting of the Federal Assembly's federal chamber set for March 30.

CROATIAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SETS MINIMUM WAGE

LD241129 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1043 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Zagreb, 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- The Executive Council of the Croatian Assembly today adopted a decision that the guaranteed personal income of workers in the republic during the first half of this year will be 65,400 dinars per month. This is 60 percent of the average disposable personal income a worker in Croatia achieved in the second half of 1986.

The guaranteed personal income in the first half of this year is 50 percent higher than in the second half of 1986. Throughout last year almost 33,000 workers in Croatia, and in January this year 4,880 workers, received the guaranteed personal income.

An initiative was launched at the session for a wholesale analysis of trends in personal incomes in the republic to be carried out by 15 May this year. After this, the justification for and the possibility of guaranteed personal incomes being corrected more frequently or adjusted in accordance with some other percentage will be examined.

CROATIA PREPARES FOR PRICE DECREASES

LD241346 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1102 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Zagreb, 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- A few days prior to the expiry of the deadline for returning prices of 19,000 products to December levels, in conformity with the FEC decision, intensive preparations are underway in Croatia for this complex operation. Telexes have already been sent to manufacturers and in the republic's market inspectorate there is a belief that all manufacturers are aware of the decision.

The FEC decision is fairly clear and any little disputed questions will, it is reported, be explained at a meeting of inspectors on Wednesday, after which all market inspectors in the municipalities of the SR of Croatia will be able to begin checking to see it is implemented.

Retail work organizations are at present awaiting instructions from manufacturers because without them they cannot implement the FEC decision directly, so they will not begin to put the price decreases into operation until the middle of the week. This will probably be exceptionally complex because it concerns an exceptionally large number of items.

TU FEDERATION DESIRES LIMITING INCOME GROWTH

LD240006 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2042 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Sarajevo, 23 Mar (TANJUG) -- The Trade Union Federation favors full respect for all legal regulations and agreements, even in the case of limiting the growth of personal incomes, which also prevents spending what has not been earned, transfer of accumulation into personal incomes and bonuses not linked to work results. This was stated this evening by Marija Todorovic, president of the Council of the Trade Union Federation of Yugoslavia, while taking part in the work of an extended session of the Presidium of the Sarajevo City Trade Union Council, within the framework of her 2-day visit to the trade union organization of Bosnia-Hercegovina. The the theme of the session is the implementation of the laws and measures of the FED in the associated labor of the Bosnia-Hercegovina capital.

The laws should be respected and implemented, Marija Todorovic said, since they apply equally to everybody. At the present juncture postponment cannot be tolerated, because there is no other way left. According to Marija Todorovic, the Trade Union Federation should ensure that all social forces, everybody together, according to the same plan move toward the same objective -- the consistent realization of legal regulations and decrees.

HANSANI, OTHERS DISCUSS NATIONALISM AT LCY MEETING

LD192224 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1525 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 19 Mar (TANJUG) -- Radovan Radonjic, chaired today's joint session of the LCY Central Committees for International Relations and for Ideological and Theoretical Work. His appeal for a discussion on national awareness, nationalism and the LC to be conducted in an objective, comprehensive way and with Scandinavian style [as received], yielded fruit. On a mainly theoretical level and without the nervousness often manifested when this topic is discussed, the discussion participants analyzed its current and historical aspect.

Recalling the history of our nations and nationalities and our communist movement, Dusan Dragosavac talked about the neglected values of our revolution in his introductory speech. Discussions on the constitutional changes exaggerate national statehood. The painstaking history of some nations and a need for their full statehood in the style of historic rights, borders, and similar myths are being recalled almost every day. At the same time, he said, the SFRY is neglected as an optimal framework for resolving all problems, includng national problems. It is high time, warned Dragosavac, for the LC to do its utmost to overcome the nationalist interpretation of statehood and to direct a nation from state management toward self-management.

The ground has been ideologically prepared in such a way that the exponents of "our idea" can publish their reactionary programs in the form of political memoranda, nationalist programs, and similar means. I also think that the slogan of self-orientation cannot be made absolute to the point of separation, because in the given circumstances this could lead to the rupture of our community. All our nations and nationalities used their right of self-orientation by becoming united in the SFRY. It would now be a betrayal to emphasize the slogan of separation, and to introduce it into the current policy. According to this theory some 8 million Yugoslavs do not have a national state, and out of those, nearly 3 million of our nationalities do not have a joint SFRY either. [passage omitted]

Dragosavac wound up his report by posing about a dozen questions which await answers: Are "national programs" excesses or "another line"; isn't doing ethnically pure military service at home an old nationalist topic; how should the continual exacerbation regarding the language and alphabet be discussed; how should a discussion on flags be organized; to what extent are the problems regarding Youth Day a provocation and to what extent are they a desire to become more modern, etc. In all this, Dragosavac concluded, more ideopolitical work and less repression are needed.

The key question for Milivoj Solar is why nationalism is continually revived and why the LC action does not yield satisfactory results. Seeking an answer to this question, he noted that the tactics of occasional blows are predominant in the strategy of the LC struggle against nationalism.

Fuad Muhic analyzed demands for the legitimacy of "national program." He described them as having been present for a long time, but only exposed in the "memorandum" and NOVA REVIJA. Celestin Sardelic warned, inter alia, that Croat nationalism should not be underestimated, though it was not very prominent on the public scene at present. He described anti-Serbian and anti-Yugoslavian sentiments as its constants. [passage omitted]

All the knowledge about the manifestations of nationalism in the Yugoslav People's Army lead us to conclude that it is very much on the increase in all the environments, that it threatens to jeopardize the gains of the revolution and to win over the masses and that its exponents are often LC members, said Simeon Buncic. He believes that the LC is not united in its assessment of this matter and that people are not yet aware that nationalism has never been more destructive. Without realizing this, the LC will not be able to conquer this evil.

Today's discussion, which is expected to contribute to the preparations for the LCY Central Committee Plenum on ideological trends, was also attended by Sinan Hasani, president of the SFRY Presidency, and Milanko Renovica, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium.

KOSOVO COUNCIL OPPOSES OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

AU151940 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 15 Mar 87

[From the "Sunday at 10" program]

[Text] The discussions about language are being continued in Pristina. We talked about this exactly 7 days ago, and for this program we have a report from Pristina by Milisav Milic:

[Begin recording] Yet another very important aspect of everyday life in Kosovo was made topical in Pristina last week. It all started with the Serbian Executive Council's view that there is a need to introduce the Serbo-Croatian language as the standard [knjizevni] language in the whole of the republic and thus in Kosovo, too. The Kosovo Executive Council reacted to this view of the republican government exceptionally quickly. In its statement the provincial government cited the Kosovo Constitution as guaranteeing the equality of the Albanian, Serbo-Croatian, and Turkish languages. In order to provide political support for the Kosovo Government's assertion, an extraordinary session of the Coordination Council for Intranational Relations and the Secretariat of the Section for the Development of the Political System of the Provincial Conference of the Kosovo SAWP was held, at which it was explicitly stated that no language has priority over others. Several participants in the discussion rejected the views of the Serbian Executive Council. Well-known Kosovo ideologist Ismail Bajra said that raising the question of whether there is an official language or not is a nationalistic calculation and the very opposite of our revolution. Other participants in the discussion also pointed out that no language in Kosovo can have priority over another language and promoted the idea of learning the languages of the area as the condition for living together. Unfortunately there are more and more young people who, apart from their native language, do not speak any other language.

(Mehmet Sidaversi), director of TAN, a Pristina newspaper published in Turkish, is of the opinion that the Turkish language is the least equal language in Kosovo. There is no translation into Turkish even at the highest forums and there are examples of insults to human dignity in public communications. (Sidaversi) also raised the question of why the names on Kosovo Assembly buildings, on the building of its Executive Council, the LC Provincial Committee, and other institutions are not written in Turkish as well.

At the joint session of the Coordination Council for Intranational Relations and the Secretariat of the Section for the Development of the Political System of the Provincial Conference of the Kosovo SAWP it was pointed out that there is a large gap between the normative rules for using languages and alphabets and actual practice.

This session, too, was held in a hall without translating equipment. [end recording]

VLASI VIEWS ALBANIANS' FUTURE IN KOSOVO

AU211539 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 7-8 Mar 87 p 3

[Report on interview with Azem Vlasi, president of Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium, by Miodras Kragovic: "As a Guest of the Editors and Journalists of the BORBA Work Organization"; date and place not given; Vlasi remarks found in passages within quotation marks]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] In his introductory statement, Azem Vlasi analyzed the situation in the sphere of intranational relations.

"The counterrevolutionary actions of Albanian nationalists caused a grave crisis of consciousness. Nationalism penetrated onto the social scene and more and more openly manifested itself there. Immediately before 1981, the leadership was retreating, behaving defensively and was tolerant toward these and similar phenomena. This was, in brief, what happened.

"I can say," Vlasi comments, "that we have ably overcome this grave crisis of consciousness. The broader strata of working people and citizens have realized how grave, profound, and dangerous is nationalist euphoria." [passage omitted]

"I shall tell you something as a Communist and an Albanian, although I am certain that some of you may disagree with me deep down inside you. Namely, there is a considerably enrooted opinion that that moment when it becomes ethnically pure -- although this will never happen -- Kosovo is lost for Yugoslavia. This means doubting the fact that communists and progressive forces from the ranks of Albanians will present a guaranty that even in such a case Kosovo will remain in Yugoslavia, and that further means that one thinks that Serbs and Montenegrins are the only such guaranty now and in the future. First, who is it who needs such guesswork, and, second, it is a great fallacy to think like that.

"The Province is about 78 percent Albanian. That Kosovo is in Yugoslavia and that it will be there is guaranteed by progressive forces from Albanian ranks who are not there by accident or through coercion. They are there because they have found their interest and perspecitve there, the same as others have.

"I shall repeat: The guaranty are the Albanians together with others and the guaranty is Yugoslavia itself. Nobody needs tha ominous guesswork about what will happen if the last Serbian leaves. First, that will not happen and second, Kosovo will always remain where it is, in Yugoslavia." [passage ommitted]

The public was, understandably enough, surprised by the polemics between the republican and provincial secretaries about whether the head of the irredentists has been discovered:

"Well, why did we react! We have made it clear that Lalovic did not mean it like that. He is, after all, a man holding a responsible republican post. It sounded as if the heads of irrendentists are in the people's consciousness, at all levels. For God's sake, what does at all levels' mean? What kind of assessments and whose assessments are they? "Let us not make guesses about the head and whether it has been discovered. We have stated clearly: What we discovered, we discovered. If someone thinks that we are hiding that head, then we have nothing to talk about. We cannot guarantee that those that we caught are the head. It is known about some of them that they were in the leaderships of illegal organizations and groups. Even now, some are discovered, caught, arrested, put on trial... our orientation is clear -- everybody who perpetrates hostile acts against our system and against the achievements of the revolution should answer for that, no matter whether he is the head' or the tail.'" [passage omitted]

During a debate at an assembly committee about a report on implementing measures to stop emigration, one could also hear a demand to introduce birth control in the Province of Kosovo. About this, Azem Vlasi said the following:

"That is not a taboo topic for us, but we must make one thing clear: What is very important is the way one asks that question, the position from which one does so, how to state the problem, and not to politicize it as some people do sometimes. [passage omitted]

"There is much exaggeration. I have seen in a daily newspaper that they calculatd how many Albanians there will be in Yugoslavia at such and such time. Permeating through such a forecast is a message, which is supposed to frighten the others, something to this effect: Poor us, what will happen to us when those Albanians multiply?' Now, let me ask you whether we shall write about Slovenes, Montenegrins, Serbs, no matter whom like that. What does this spreading of fear from the invasion of Albanians mean, as if they are not Yugoslavs.

"I do not agree with those Albanians either who say, well, other regions have low birth rates, so we shall improve the country's average. That does not go either!" [passage omitted]

KOSOVO PRESIDENCIES VIEW ALBANIAN NATIONALISM

LD242135 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1958 GMT 24 Mar 87

["Kosovo: Announcement by Two Presidencies" -- TANJUG headline]

[Text] Belgrade, March 24 (TANJUG) -- The struggle against Albanian nationalism and [word indistinct] has been intensified in the Yugoslav Province of Kosovo, contributing to the more energetic and quicker discovering and cutting of the different forms of their organized activity -- it has been assessed at a joint session of the Presidency of the Yugoslav Province of Kosovo and the Presidency of the Central Committee of the League of Communists (LC) of this province.

In March and April 1981, during the demonstrations of rather wide proportions -- which were assessed as a counter-revolutionary attempt at changing the constitutional order of Yugoslavia from the position of Albanian separatism and nationalism -- there were eight victims among the demonstrators and one among the members of the interior affairs organs, as was officially announced then in Kosovo.

The majority population, or about three quarters of the total, are Albanians in this Yugoslav province, followed by the Serbs, Montenegrins, Turks, and Moslems, and several other, proportionally small in number, ethnic groups.

The two Kosovo Presidencies yesterday noted that the prolonged activity of Albanian nationalists was signalling that "not all the roots or sources which incite or inspire their hostile activity have been cut off as yet."

The Presidency of the Province and the Presidency of the Provincial LC Committee have noted that the "ideological-political activity of the Communists and the other progressive forces is concentrated on the further strengthening of brotherhood and unity, socialist mutuality, and national equality." It was added that this "has enabled the quicker overcoming of the cooled-off inter-nationality relations and the strengthening of trust between the members of the nations and nationalities."

The announcement said that the state organs, especially the judicial and administrative organs in Kosovo were most efficient "in the enforcement of constitutionality and legality, which has of late appreciably acted on the returning of what is the shaken confidence in the lawful work of the authority organs."

Out of the 503,406 cases before all the courts in Kosovo, last year 412,512 cases were solved with priority having been given to those involving members of the different nationalities.

The announcement says that in a large number of cases measures have been taken against "those who displayed a bureaucratic self-will, irresponsibility and inefficiency in performing their duties".

For instance, measures have been taken against 134 employees of the internal affairs organs for failing adequately to perform their duties -- seven have been dismissed, and proceedings for determining the responsibility for summary offenses have been instituted against 87.

The announcement says that in the area of education in Kosovo, ideological-political measures have been taken against 73 educational workers, disciplinary measures against 80, and administrative-legal measures against 24. Seven school directors have been replaced. Ideological-political measures have been taken against 150 students, and disciplinary measures against 482. As set out, however, instances of opportunism and chauvinism are still to be found in educational institutions in the province.

In the period since March 1986, when conclusions on Kosovo were adopted by the Yugoslav state and party presidencies, as the announcement sets out, the activities of organized socialist forces in Kosovo have been directed to individual environments where an organized rallying of citizens of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality took place last year, petitions were written, and visits of groups of citizens to federal and republican (Republic of Serbia, a part of which Kosovo is) organs organized.

Despite the fact that many justified demands of Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo have been met, as the announcement points out, "certain destructive elements continue to incite mistrust and dissatisfaction...and again urge group migrations from Kosovo".

The two Kosovo Presidencies point out that Communists and other organized socialist forces in Kosovo will continue to work along the line of having "all problems solved through an energetic action...without cover-ups and opportunism". Lastly, the announcement says in conclusion that the very readiness of Communists, working people and other citizens of Kosovo consistently to implement the measures and conclusions adopted by the two Yugoslav presidencies in March 1986 guarantees "a full normalization of the situation in Kosovo".

KOSOVO'S SERB, MONTENEGRIN COMPLAINTS VIEWED

LD171903 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1819 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Belgrade, March 17 (TANJUG) -- The problems pointed to by Serbs and Montenegrins from the Province of Kosovo in their complaints to the provincial and federal organs should be settled more quickly, because they are justified in 90 percent of the cases, it was stressed at a meeting of the Presidency of Yugoslavia's Petitions and Complaints Commission here today.

Kosovo's Serbs and Montenegrins mostly complain about pressures by Albanian separatists who are forcing them to move out of the province. Their grievances also relate to irregularities in the work of the provincial organs.

The Petitions and Complaints Commission noted that the problems indicated by Serbs and Montenegrins can and must be resolved by Kosovo's organs. They will continue to be helped by working groups made up of representatives of the federal organs, organs of the Republic of Serbia and the Province of Kosovo which will tour the province when this is called for.

President of the Commission for Petitions and Complaints Hisen Prekazi stated today that work on the settlement of complaints in Kosovo is not organized well. He said that absolute priority needs to be given to the complaints of Kosovo's Serbs and Montenegrins.

SERBIAN VISIT CLEARS 'ANTI-SLOVENE FEELINGS'

AU141748 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] For 2 weeks now, reports from Ljubljana have made the front pages of the media. The reaction to the fraud involving the Youth Day Poster was justifiably stormy. The views of NOVA REVIJA were even more fiercely commented upon. The situation with the Youth Relay Race itself offered an opportunity for journalistic comment because of numerous contradictory views. Ivan Stambolic, president of the Presidency of Serbia, and Slobodan Milosevic, president of the Central Committee Presidium of the LC of Serbia, met with Slovene leaders yesterday, and also discussed these subjects. Kosta Krajincanic comments:

The significance of this kind of contact, carried out by republican and provincial leaderships from time to time, is great. Rafael (Rapsted), president of the Maribor LC City Committee, pointed this out during talks with his guests from Serbia yesterday. When we read the newspapers, he remarked, and when we see on television reports on various official interrepublican meetings, we get the impression that we are disunited in many ways. However, when we meet like this directly, and objectively analyze matters in a comradely conversation, we see that this is not the picture and that indeed we have much in common.

The topical significance of this remark has been confirmed in the past days and weeks precisely in Slovenia, for instance. We have seen for ourselves that from time to time, attempts are made to maliciously interpret some occurrences in that republic, occurrences that the Slovene public itself was the first to condemn. Anti-Slovene feelings have been inflamed with exclamations about how long this Slovenia will go on, and what these Slovenes want, and a picture has been created as if all Slovenia, all the intellectuals, all the youth, the complete leadership, and the entire Slovene people are guilty of some unacceptable ideas and tendencies.

To impose such a burden of guilt on Slovenia may be socially more dangerous and politically more harmful than the very cases, which the public justifiably reacts against.

In order to obtain a proper, real picture of another community, it is necessary that we associate more and that we learn more about each other. This is something completely opposite from what the advocates of separatism and self-sufficiency propagate. We need more joint work in the economy, science, culture, and education. We need more friendship, confidence, more understanding.

Indeed, why should we not communicate according to the principle of trust upon trust, instead of speech upon speech, discussion upon discussion, and plenum upon plenum?

AMBASSADOR VERES RECEIVED BY USSR'S YELTSIN

LD241135 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1010 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- Boris Yeltsin, first secretary of the Moscow City Party Committee and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, has received Yugoslav Ambassador, Milan Veres, and had talks with him on cooperation between the Belgrade LC City Commmittee and the Moscow Committee of the CPSU. In friendly talks Yeltsin informed the Yugoslav ambassador about the activities of the Moscow party organization in implementing the tasks of restructuring.

CPCZ'S FOJTIK ARRIVES ON LCY INVITATION

LD250011 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1910 GMT 24 Mar 87

[Text] [No placename as received] 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- At the invitation of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, Jan Fojtik, candidate member for the CPCZ Presidium and secretary in the CPCZ Central Committee, arrived in Belgrade today. At Belgrade Airport Fojtik was welcomed by Marko Lolic, executive secretary in the LCY Central Committee Presidium. Jan Husak, the Czechoslovak ambassador in the SFRY, was also present.

During his stay in Belgrade Fojtik will hold talks in the LCY Central Committee Presidium and will also visit the KOMUNIST editorial office.

Fojtik will also pay a visit to the SR of Croatia. In Zagreb he is expected to have talks in the Croat LC Central Committee and to visit Vjesnik composite organization of associated labor and Zagreb radio and television.

DEBT RESCHEDULING ACCORD SIGNED WITH JAPAN

LD201421 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1229 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Belgrade, March 20 (TANJUG) -- An agreement on consolidating Yugoslavia's debt repayment up to 1987 to Japan was signed here today. The agreement covers deferring Yugoslavia's repayment to the amount of 4.7 million Japanese yens and about 3.5 million dollars.

Boris Skapin, aide to the federal secretary for finance, signed it on behalf of Yugoslavia and Hirohiko Otsuka, Japanese ambassador to Yugoslavia, signed it for Japan.

KOVAC CONFERS WITH EC OFFICIALS IN BRUSSELS

LD232350 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2236 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Brussels, March 23 (TANJUG) -- Yugoslav Government member Dr Oskar Kovac had three separate rounds of talks with high European Communities (E.C.) representatives at the E.C. seat here today.

Kovac and commissioner for the Mediterranean policy and north-south relations Claude Cheysson considered trade and financial cooperation between Yugoslavia and the European Community and topical international economic questions.

The Yugoslav Government member also met with E.C. Commission vice-president and commissioner for industrial affairs, technology and information Karl-Heinz Narjes. Yugoslavia's joining in the E.C. scientific-technological development program was in the focus of the talks.

Yugoslavia's possibilities for transit and ways of cooperating with countries outside the E.C., important traffic links, dominated the talks between Kovac and E.C. transport commissioner Stanley Clinton Davis.

POLITIKA ASSESSES GEORGETOWN NONALIGNED MEETING

AU181029 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 15 Mar 87 p 2

[Aleksandar Prlja commentary: "New in Georgetown"]

[Excerpts] Today, when the content and everyday activities of the Nonaligned Movement are very often spoken of in a critical reexamination in search of fresher, different behavior and actions, last week's meeting of the Coordination Bureau in Georgetown appears to say that some of the recent requests and remarks have not passed without notice. [passage omitted]

It is worth noting that the Georgetown meeting just ended provides some stimuli and refreshment in the process of improving the practice and actions of the nonaligned movement, however slow that might be in relation to what is desirable. The Georgetown meeting decided on some practical measures and announced some specific programs that will "last well beyond" this meeting: it was concluded that a "permanent, extraordinary" mission of the nonaligned will visit all the relevant centers of the world political scene, ranging from the superpowers to the United Nations. Although the work of this mission will not be based on the classical "physical power," its activities will stimulate different, modest direct hopes. The heads of about 70 delegations left Georgetown in the belief that there will be a more lasting expansion of actions to strengthen nonalignment, to promote democratic processes and relations in the societies of Central American countries, and to achieve more consistent respect for the principle of independent decisionmaking and deciding one's own future. Moreover, this action, as Raif Dizdarevic said in Georgetown, coincides with "increasingly serious reexamination of the current policies in the United States itself," as well as with American internal resistance to the current policy of military and other pressures of the United States on Nicaragua.

Of course, this kind of coincidence is not only temporal nor is it caused by "technical" reasons. It is the result of the growing awareness that armed force and fire do not solve anything but could complicate and endanger almost everything. [passage omitted]

Also the agenda of the meeting in Guyana were the countries of Central America and their troubles in confronting domestic and "border" problems. A commission of the nonaligned countries formed for that purpose does not, of course, hold the key to the practical solutions for problems that have accumulated in that region. Probably nobody is under this illusion. But can anyone dispute the importance of this initiative at a time when even the U.S. Congress has become aware of the need for changes in American policy?

This would be very difficult to dispute. It would be even more difficult to dispute that this is a matter of an interesting evolution of the actual, every day behavior and activities of the nonaligned movement.